



Mark, Class 7

Sec. No. 7

CLARIO DUS;

A

METRICAL ROMANCE:

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THE MAIL AND TELEGRAPH

JULY M.DCCC.XXX.

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P R E F A C E.

THE romances of chivalry, either in verse or prose, constituted so large a portion of the literature of the middle ages, that, after innumerable revolutions in taste and fashion, they must still be regarded as objects of a liberal and well-directed curiosity. Of the literary recreations of our ancestors, they supply various and ample specimens ; and they abound with illustrations of the manners, customs, and habits of thinking, which prevailed during the respective periods to which they belong. The early poets of romance confounded the manners of every preceding age with those of their own ; Hector of Troy they represent in all respects as such a knight as Amadis of Gaul ; and their want of skill in history and chronology thus becomes conducive to their fidelity in delineating the costumes and usages of their own times.^a

In the ancient dialect of this part of the island, there were many metrical romances which the negligence of our ancestors has suffered

^a See a Mémoire concernant la Lecture des Anciens Romans de Chevalerie, in M. de la Curne de Ste. Palaye's Mémoires sur l'Ancienne Chevalerie, tom. ii. p. 107. edit. Paris, 1781, 3 tom. 12mo.

to perish, and some curious specimens have fortunately been rescued from the common wreck. Several of these are generally known to the readers of Scotch poetry, and a few others are speedily to be recommended to the attention of those who love and preserve antiquities. The romance of Alexander, of which only a single copy, and that in some degree mutilated, is ascertained to exist, is now reprinting for the members of the Bannatyne Club ; and the romance of Clariodus, which is likewise of great extent, is at length presented to the members of the Maitland Club. It is printed from a folio manuscript which belonged to the late Lord Hailes, and which after his death was transferred to the Advocates Library. Nor is this manuscript without some mutilations ; it commences with the eighth folio, and appears to want one or two pages at the conclusion. It seems to have been written about the year 1550, or somewhat later ; but the composition is evidently of a much earlier date than the transcript, and may at least be referred to the close of the preceding century. The author's phraseology is more antiquated than that of Sir David Lindsay, and makes a nearer approach to the phraseology of Henry the Minstrel. Of a poet who has thus furnished us with so extensive a specimen of the Scotch language and versification, we can scarcely hope to retrieve the name : it was not to be expected in a manuscript curtailed of its title and colophon ; nor am I aware that the author of the romance is mentioned in any existing record of our literary history. To the work itself we find an apparent allusion in Stewart's abridgement of the *Orlando Furioso* ; which so far preserves the character of an original production, that the writer has

not rigidly confined himself to the text of Ariosto, but has occasionally introduced new thoughts or illustrations.

And Medor lyk the knyght Clariodus gois,
Quhan he did meik Meliades conwoy
From fontan quhair thay haid conweind with joy.^b

Clariodus, like many of the English romances, is derived from a French original. Mr Tyrwhitt is “inclined to believe that we have no English romance, prior to the age of Chaucer, which is not a translation or imitation of some earlier French romance ;”^c but this opinion has not been adopted by other writers equally conversant with poetical antiquities. The romance of Horn Child, or, as it is otherwise called, the Geste of Kyng Horn, is regarded by Bishop Percy as of genuine English origin ; and he infers its antiquity from the circumstance of its abounding with Anglo-Saxon idioms. It is manifestly the production of a very remote age, and, according to his estimate, it cannot be re-

^b *Ane Abbregement of Roland Fvrios, translait ovt of Ariost: togither vith sym Rapsodies of the Avthors zovthfyll braine, and last ane Schersing ovt of trew Felicitie ; composit in Scotis meitir be J. Stewart of Baldynneis.* MS. 4to.—This volume, stamped with the royal arms and initials, is transcribed with a considerable degree of elegance, and is dedicated to James the Sixth, who is frequently lauded with all the abject flattery which characterized the courtiers of that period. It came into the possession of the late Duke of Roxburgh, and is now deposited in the Advocates Library. Stewart's original poems display very little fancy or feeling, and his versification has no peculiar merit. His diction is generally feeble, and is often very pedantic : he is particularly fond of French words ; instead of timid damsel, he ventures to adopt such a phrase as *craintive pucelle*. The author has sufficient reason to apologize for his “inept orthographie.” Of orthography there was indeed no standard at that period : but Stewart's general mode of spelling is uncouth and unsettled beyond the common example.

^c Tyrwhitt's *Essay on the Language and Versification of Chaucer*, p. 68.

ferred to a later period than within a century after the conquest.^d Mr Ritson assigns it a more recent date, the close of the twelfth century, and contends that it does not exhibit a single vestige of a more intimate connexion with the Saxon, than is common to every English composition of that period; ^e but the bishop's opinion respecting its English origin has been maintained by a more recent writer, intimately acquainted with the history of northern poetry.^f Certain however it is that a very large proportion of the earliest English romances are either translations or imitations of French originals; though it has been conjectured, and with great probability, that those which are founded on English history and tradition may have been composed in French by natives of England.

The story of Clariodus is in a great measure English. The hero himself is son to the earl of Esture, or the Asturias; but his lovely lady Meliades is the daughter and heiress of Philipon king of England, and the most material incidents and adventures are connected with this court. In the French language there is a prose romance of Cleriadus and Meliadice, which was printed, apparently before the close of the fifteenth century.^g In a letter addressed to Mr Laing, the meritorious

^d Percy's Essay on the Ancient Minstrels in England, p. lxxxii.

^e Ritson's Dissertation on Romance and Minstrelsy, p. xcix.

^f "Bishop Percy's assertion, indeed, that it appears of genuine English growth, though denied with equal confidence and ignorance by Ritson, is supported by internal evidence which no one capable of understanding it can reject." (Conybeare's Illustrations of Anglo-Saxon Poetry, p. 237, note by the editor. Lond. 1826, 8vo.) See likewise Mr Madden's Introduction to the Ancient English Romance of Havelok the Dane, p. xlvi. Lond. 1828, 4to.

^g Cy commence le Liure de messire Cleriadus filz au conte Desture Et de Meliadice fille au roy

secretary of the Bannatyne Club, Mr Douce has stated that the manuscripts which he has examined are not older than the middle of the same century, and that the printed romance is only an abridgement. The same story is not now to be found in French verse. The Scotish author has regularly detailed the incidents of the prose romance, but has added some portion of poetical embellishment. He makes no claim to the character of an original writer, but on various occasions professes to follow the footsteps of his author.

For certainlie my author tellis me thus .^h

He not only refers to the French original, but likewise to a translation, probably into the English language :

Nocht can my pen discryve norȝit advance
 His valiant deidis nor his chevalrie,
 So far as might be reasoun satisfie
 Hini that in French hes red this historie ;
 To sik ane rethorik nather be laud and glorie,
 As unto him that did this buik complayle
 In French, illumining with his goldin style ;
 And he that did it out of French translait,
 Hes it depaint of langwage full ornate,

dngleterre. On les vend a Paris en la rue neufue nostre dame a lenseigne saint Nicolas.—This volume, which is in quarto and without date, contains the following colophon : “ Cy finist le romant et cronique de Cleriadus et Meliadice fille au roy dngleterre. Nouuellement Imprime a Paris pour Pierre sergent demourat en la Rue neufue nostre dame a lenseigne saint Nicolas.” A further abridgement of this romance may be found in the *Bibliotheque universelle des Romans*, Janv. 1777, tom. i. p. 26.

^h P. 94. See likewise pages 112, 199, 214, 304, 314, 345, 350, 352.

And lustie termis richt poeticall :
 Bot I, the third and secundest of ali,
 Can not so meitter as thay put in prose ;
 Full oft I put the nettill for the rose,
 And oft the bindweid for the lillie quhyte.¹

From this passage we learn that he followed, not a metrical, but a prose original and a prose version. The translator's name he has not sought an opportunity of mentioning ; but the subsequent verse supplies us with some information respecting his quality :

Eik my Lord sayis in his translation.²

As the manuscript of Clariodus leaves the tale somewhat imperfect, it may not here be improper to supply the most material deficiencies. The French romance begins with stating that after the days of King Arthur and his companions of the Round Table,¹ how long after we

¹ P. 351.

² P. 255.

¹ It has been truly remarked by Dr. Southey that the histories of Arthur and Charlemagne were to the poets and romancers of the middle ages, what the histories of the Trojan and Theban wars were to the poets of antiquity. One of these personages, who is represented as the powerful monarch of Britain, has made so conspicuous a figure in the regions of romance, that several modern writers have expressed a strong doubt whether his name belongs to the records of authentic history. Milton, whose imagination was so deeply impressed with the romantic tales of the Round Table, has remarked that "who Arthur was, and whether ever any such reign'd in Britain, hath bin doubted heretofore, and may again with good reason." (Hist. of England, p. 122. Lond. 1670, 4to.) That the extent of his power and the glory of his exploits have been grossly exaggerated, can indeed admit of no controversy ; but, if we may rely on the authority of Welsh antiquaries, there are in that language sufficient documents to ascertain that such a person existed, and that he was a character of considerable importance. (Roberts's Sketch of the early History of the Cymry, or Ancient Britons, p. 142. Lond. 1803, 8vo.) Geoffrey of Monmouth, who has exhibited him in so glaring a light, professes to have derived his materials from an ancient British manuscript, which Walter Calenus, archdeacon of Oxford, had brought from Armo-

are not informed, there reigned in England a worthy king named Philippon. He had espoused a lady belonging to a very high family of Gascony, and the only issue of their marriage was a daughter named Meliadice. This was the most beautiful damsel of her time, and she was instructed in every thing that the daughter of a king ought to know : she was withal so well conditioned, and was so entirely inclined to love God and the church, that it was a great pleasure to hear of her good works. The king was now far advanced in years ; and although he had a brother, Thomas de Langarde, who was much younger than himself, yet as he could not intrust any share of the government to a person of so wicked a disposition, he was obliged to solicit the aid of his friend the count of Esture, who speedily obeyed his summons, and repaired to England accompanied by his valiant son Cleriadus. On their arrival, they were treated with all due honour : at the very first banquet, Cleriadus appeared to great advantage ; he well knew how to mingle in the dance, and he sung so sweetly, that Philippon could not help saying to the count, “ *En vérité, beau cousin, ie ne ouys oncques si bien chanter, ne si bien a mon gré, que*

rica ; but this account has been received with the utmost distrust, and he has frequently been suspected of inventing what he professes to translate. It has however been shewn by an ingenious and pleasing writer, the late Mr Ellis, that there is no sufficient reason to infer that either the historian or his friend the archdeacon was guilty of imposture ; and that there is in reality much more improbability in supposing a series of fables, intended to convey an exaggerated opinion of the national grandeur, to have been rather devised in the twelfth century, than during the ignorance and credulity of an earlier period. (Specimens of Early English Metrical Romances, vol. i. p. 89.) See likewise Turner's Hist. of the Anglo-Saxons, vol. i. p. 101. and Ritson's Life of King Arthur, from ancient Historians and authentic Documents. Lond. 1825, 8vo.

vostre filz faict.” The count of Esture was without delay appointed the king’s lieutenant, and administered his affairs with wisdom and justice. There were four gentlemen in his train, whose names frequently recur in the course of the narrative: two of them, Amadour de Bruslant and Palixes, were his sister’s sons; the third was of Scotland, and was named Richard de Mataint; the fourth was of Wales, and was named Guillaume de Forest. In the mean time, Cleriadus, who was deeply smitten with the charms of Meliadice, improved every opportunity of cultivating her good graces: sometimes they played at chess, sometimes he danced or sung, or played on his harp. But in the midst of this solace, he found a brilliant opportunity of distinguishing himself by his first deed of arms. One day, while the king was holding “court grande et plaine,” a knight in complete armour, and attended by six squires, entered the palace, and delivered a message from his master the Duc de Jennes; setting forth that during the said duke’s minority, Philippon had without cause and without reason seized the port of Claire-Fontaine, and declaring that unless he signified his willingness to make restitution, he then defied him with fire and blood. He however added that he was authorized to leave the decision of their claims to the issue of a single combat, and was ready to meet any knight who might appear on the king’s behalf. All the knights of his court, to whom he explained the justice of his quarrel, having declined to do battle with the Lombard champion, Cleriadus, who was then twenty-two years of age, tendered his services; and, after being knighted by the king, he entered the lists with his redoubt-

able adversary. And with this incident commences the manuscript of the Scotish romance.

The mutilation at the end of the poem appears to have been less considerable, and probably did not amount to two pages. The grand tournament is the last incident mentioned in the prose romance, which then hastens to a conclusion. “ *Et eurent le roy Cleriadus et la royne Meliadice de beaux enfans, lesquelz furent tous roys et roynes. Et faisoit souuent le roy Cleriadus armes pour lamour de sa bonne amye Meliadice. Et vesquirent long temps ensemble en toute ioye et prosperité, comme vous auez ouy par cy deuant. Et a tant se taist le compte a parler deulx et de leur faictz. Et icy finist le Romant et Cronique du Roy Cleriadus et de Meliadice sa femme ; que plus nen parle pour le present, sinon que le benoist roy de gloire vueille auoir mercy deulx et de nous quant il luy plaira. Amen.* ”

The tale seems to be protracted beyond its proper limits : the marriage of Clariodus offers the natural termination, and all that follows may be considered as misplaced and superfluous. In the previous part of the work, we are abundantly regaled with tournaments and feasts ; nor was it expedient to repeat the same entertainments, after our curiosity respecting the fate of the principal characters must have been so completely abated. But the merit or demerit of the story itself belongs to the author of the French romance, and the Scotish writer can only aspire to the praise of a skilful versifier. With the exception of Henry the Minstrel, he has exhibited a more lengthened specimen of the heroic couplet, than any other of our early poets ; and his versification,

PREFACE.

though occasionally feeble, and perhaps deficient in variety of phrase and cadence, is not destitute of spirit or character, and it sometimes attains to smoothness and elegance. The following couplet is easy and flowing :

Thay hadde the winde so richt and eike so faire,
Thay go also swift as aigill in the aire.^m

In another passage, he elegantly describes the song of the minstrels,

Sweit as the marmaid in the orient sea.ⁿ

The subsequent verse will gratify the admirers of alliteration :

And faire ower fluide as falcon fair on flicht.^o

The poet's phraseology is not without its peculiarities. He occasionally introduces Latin and French words which retain a very extraneous appearance. In the following couplet, squires are termed *armigers*, and to shew is to *ostend* :

With that he gart his armigers ostend
The creddill of gold, gudlie to commend.^p

Clariodus may upon the whole be considered as a very readable poem. It affords a valuable specimen of the language and literature of our ancestors, and it abounds with characteristic illustrations of the manners and customs peculiar to the ages of chivalry. The pomp and

^m P. 199.

ⁿ P. 340.

^o P. 365.

^p P. 309.

circumstance of the tournament, the mode of conducting the gorgeous banquet of the feudal court, where a lady and a knight were placed alternately at the *dyse*,⁴ together with the minstrelsy and pastimes with which they were regaled during their festivities, are all presented in due order, and are rendered intelligible and interesting to the inquisitive reader. In the fourth book, for example, we find a copious detail of the ceremonies attending the vow of the *poune*, or peacock; an usage so remote from modern manners, that its first aspect is not a little singular.⁵

From some occasional expressions, it may be inferred that the author intended his poem for recitation as well as reading; and at a period when many knights and barons had not learned the letters of the alphabet, the aid of the professed reciter or minstrel was indispensable. “The word minstrel,” as Warton has remarked, “is of an extensive signification, and is applied as a general term to every character of that species of men whose business it was to entertain, either with oral recitation, music, gesticulation, and singing, or with a mixture of all these arts united.”⁶ It very frequently denotes an ordinary musician, and in this sense it is repeatedly used in the common version of the Bible,⁷

⁴ Ay at the dyse ane knight and ladie met.

CLARIODUS, p. 216.

⁵ See M. de la Curne de Ste. Palaye, Mémoires sur l’Ancienne Chevalerie, tom. i. p. 184.

⁶ Warton’s Hist. of English Poetry, vol. iv. p. 127. Price’s edit.

⁷ “But now bring me a minstrel. And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the Lord came upon him.” (2 Kings, iii. 15.) “Jesus came into the ruler’s house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise.” (Matthew, ix. 23.)

which is an excellent standard for the contemporary meaning of an English word ; but on other occasions the term bears a more elevated signification, and a minstrel is then synonymous with a poet. An ancient Scottish poet, if I rightly apprehend his meaning, represents harping and reciting as an inferior accomplishment, and a talent for poetry as the chief qualification of a minstrel :^u

To harpe or carpe, whare so thu gose,
 Thomas, thu soll hafe the chose sothely.
 And he said, harpyngke kepe I none,
 Ffor tonge es chefe of mynstralsye.*

The recitation of metrical romances long continued to afford one of the chief literary recreations among the higher ranks ; and to be able to read such compositions, was no vulgar attainment. This was one of the accomplishments of the fair Ysoude, the heroine of the ancient romance ascribed to Thomas of Erceldoune :

^u The same order of men is still to be found in certain parts of the world, where civilization has made but little progress. Among the Mandingo tribes of Africa, as Major Laing informs us, the *jelle*, or minstrels, earn their subsistence "by singing the mighty deeds and qualifications of rich men, who, in their opinion, have no faults. Like the minstrels of old, they are always at hand to laud with hyperbolical praise the landlord of a feast, and headman of a town." (Laing's Travels in Western Africa, p. 132. Lond. 1825. 8vo.) In Bondoo, Major Gray met with abundance of "gouldahs, or singing people, who in Africa always flock around those who have any thing to give.—Dozens of them," he adds, "would, at the same moment, set up a sort of roaring extempore song in our praise, accompanied by drums and a sort of guitar ; and we found it impossible to get rid of them by any other means than giving something." (Gray's Travels in Western Africa, p. 112. Lond. 1825. 8vo.)

* Thomas off Ersselfoune, fytt ii. v. 5. printed in Laing's Select Remains of the Ancient popular Poetry of Scotland. Edinb. 1822. 4to.

The king had a doucher dere,
 That maiden Ysoude * hight,
 That gle was lef to here,
 And romauence to rede aright.^x

Barbour, the venerable archdeacon of Aberdeen, has recorded a curious anecdote illustrative of this department of literary history. The good King Robert, having occasion to convey himself and his small band of faithful adherents across Lochlomond, could only procure a boat capable of admitting three people. Bruce and Douglas were first ferried over: a day and a night were consumed in conveying the rest of the party; and while they were gradually mustering on the banks of the lake, the hero endeavoured to solace his followers by reading to them the romance of Ferambrace.

The king the quhilis meryly
 Red to thaim that war him by,
 Romanys off worthi Ferambrace.
 That worthily our cummyn was.
 Throw the ryght donchty Olywer. ---
 The gud king apon this maner
 Comfort thaim that war him ner.
 And maid thaim gamyn & solace.
 Till that his folk all passyt was.^y

* Sir Walter Scott has uniformly adopted the reading of Ysoude; but, with respect to the orthography of this name, consult "Gottfrieds von Strassburg Werke, aus den besten Handschriften, mit Einleitung und Wörterbuch, herausgegeben durch Friedr. Heinr. von der Hagen," Band ii. S. 237. Breslau, 1823, 2 Bde. 8vo.

^x Sir Tristrem, p. 83. edit. Edinb. 1811, 8vo.

^y Barbour's Bruce, p. 54. Jamieson's edit.

The romances of chivalry appear to have maintained their popularity in Scotland till the close of the sixteenth century. The following animadversions occur in Alexander Hume's epistle to the reader, prefixed to the collection of his sacred poems : “ In princes courts, in the houses of greate men, and at the assemblies of yong gentilmen and yong damesels, the cheife pastime is to sing prophane sonnets, and vaine ballats of lone, or to rehearse some fabulos faits of Palmerine, Amadis, or other such like raueries ; and such as ather haue the art or vaine poetike, of force they must shew themselues cunning followers of the dissolute ethnike poets, both in phrase and substance, or else they shall be had in no reputation.”²

It must be satisfactory for the reader to be informed, that this relique of ancient poetry was conducted through the press by Mr Kilgour of the Register House, whose well-tried skill and fidelity afford a sufficient pledge of the minute and scrupulous accuracy with which the edition has been executed. The most wary copyist, in the progress of a tedious task, is liable to occasional fits of negligence or inadvertence ; but the manuscript of Clariodus appears to have been transcribed with less than ordinary care and attention. Many palpable errors, consisting of omissions or transpositions, or of the insertion of one word instead of another, have been rectified by the aid of conjectural criticism, where the

² *Hymnes, or sacred Songs, wherein the right vse of Poēsie may be espied.* By Alexander Hume. Wherevnto are added, the Experience of the Authors youth, and certaine Precepts seruing to the practise of Sanctification. Edinb. 1599, 4to.

rhyme, or the measure of the verse, or the obvious sense of the passage, presented a clear indication of the genuine reading. Such emendations have not however been silently introduced : the words supplied are distinguished by being placed within brackets ; and at the end of the volume is inserted a list of other alterations admitted into the text, together with the corresponding readings in the manuscript.

THE FIRST BULK
OF
CLARIODUS.

BRICHT as ane angell schyning in his weid,
With force of speir, upon his mightie steid ;
Ryght large of statour, stong and corpulent,
Lyke God of armis Mars armipotent,
Wode, burning, full of courage and defyre ;
For to behald he was ane awfull syre.

Everie man meinit Sir Clariodus ;
Bot maist of all, the mone was pitious
Of his four fellowis, his daith dreiding fore.

10 Ane of them buir his bricht helme him before,
Ane uther his speir buir unto the feild,
The thrid his ax, the fourt his nobill scheild,
Into the close in midis of the palice,
In quhilk devyfis was the fighting place.
Beholding on the stairis by and by
The King, the Queine, with mony fair lady,

When he was armit, fair, close and joint,
 Upon his steid ascendit at all poynt ;
 His lance he faikit manlie lyke a knight,
 20 As lucent lamp so leimit he of licht ;
 Manheid at Mars he neidit naime to borrow ;
 He schynit as dois the bricht day-star at morrow,
 With cirkill of gold about his helmit cleir,
 All birnand full of bricht stonis deir,
 Circumferit with roobies radious,
 Betwixt ilk firkill bricht and glorious,
 With goldin schaikeris abone his plumes greine ;
 His ladyis abone all mycht be feine
 Ane courtche of plesance, of gold all browderit bricht,
 30 Quhilk waifit lyke aene ffreimer caftine licht :
 The michtie bardis of his nobill steid
 Of bricht gold gleimit as aene gleid :
 Of redolent stonis schynit his weid royll :
 It was maiest lyke aene thing seleftiall
 Him to behold, so angillyke of hew.
 Toward the Lumbard knicht he did persew,
 Full of affuirit manheid and defyre,
 In thrift of knichtheid birnand lyke a fyre.
 As furious lyounis eiger to the field,
 40 Anone quhen ather uther can behald,
 Thair is no mair, bot loud gois up the foundis
 Of silver trumpits and of clariounis ;
 Togidder gois the knichtis in thair weidis,
 In gois thair spurris in sydis of thair steidis ;
 Furth gois the speiris straicht as ony lyne,
 Forward they preike with heartis leonyne ;
 As dreidfull dragonis thay togidder drove,
 Quhyll baith thair scheildis in peices clave,

And baith thair speiris in peices brake,
 The palice reirdit lyke ane thunder crake :
 50 Abake from uther they stakirit with sic forse,
 Quhill at the grund baith lay man and horse.
 Clariodus was delyver and g̃ing,
 And up he start without abasing,
 And pullit out his fword delyverly.
 The Lumbard knicht still efter him could ly ;
 His fute sadly throw the flirrip g̃eid,
 And throw the feild traillit him his steid ;
 Quhom followit Sir Clariodus so fast,
 60 That he the steid reing̃it at the laſt,
 And him refcourfit wounder manfulie,
 Saying, Sir Knicht, defend g̃ow hardily.
 With fwordis fsharp thay can at uther dryve,
 Whill baith thair helmis bludy war belyve.
 Thus war thair straikes baith sad and keine
 Betwix thir knichtis wounderfull to feine ;
 As rugend lyounis ramping fence and wode,
 Withoutin mercie fcheding utheris blude
 So furiouſlie, that ferlie was to fee
 70 Undantounit beine thair nobill heartis hee ;
 As foaming boares, in thair melancholie,
 Thay bet on utheris birnies cruellie,
 So long induring without disconfitour,
 That ferlie was to everie creatour
 That them beheld and stud them about,
 How thay micht stand under sic straikes stout.
 Clariodus fo knichtlie he him baire,
 That everie wicht him praitif that was thair ;
 Sore movit was the Lumbard campioun,
 80 That he, quhilk praitif was of sic renoun,

So long affailȝeit was with great fighting
 With ane that was of age so wonder ȝoung.
 He raisit up his forcie arme on height,
 And at Clariodus with all his meikle might
 Ane straik he ettilit right as he wald him flo ;
 And he anone weill neirer him can go
 And on the syd him hit the richt arme under,
 Quhill of his ribis thrie did breke in funder ;
 Whairof the wound fo lairg was and wyde,
 90 His bouellis micht be feine out throw his fyd.
 The Lumbard knicht did with the straik doun fall,
 And ly in soune alfe paill as ony wall.
 To confort him he schoup or he wald stint,
 Clariodus, did of his hewmind hint,
 And held his heid up softlie and it schoke.
 And quhen that he out of his swoun awoke,
 He said thir wordis wounder petioufly,
 Ha, flour of knichtheid ! I the mercie cry.
 The uther said, If thou will mercie crave,
 100 Make heir ane aith never to clame nor have
 The Clare Fontane, as we our cunan maid.
 Thow saifing lyfe Clariodus ! he said,
 My lord, he said, fall never challinge thairtill ;
 Rycht as thow pleis thy mynd I fall fulfill.
 Clariodus is paſt unto the King,
 Declairing the eace in everie thing,
 Him praying for the knichtis lyfe alſo.
 The King in armis refavit him tho,
 Saying, Deir freind, quhat ȝe defyre of me
 110 I thinke of richt that it ſould grantit be ;
 For ſaifit is the honour of this land,
 Rycht be the noble deidis of ȝour hand.

This woundit knicht ryght softlie up thay take,
 And in his chalmer gart his bed be make ;
 And gat him leiches his woundis for to lie,
 The trufthief that was in that cuntrie.

Clariodus is to his chalmer gone,
 Quhair his body unermit was anone,
 Ane leich to him beine fetchit haftilie,
 120 Quhilk did his woundis ryp attentivelie,
 Him conforting, and bade him take gud hart,
 For he belyve wald be helit of everie smart.

The King ane furrit mantill hes him fend,
 And bad alwayes thay fulde him till attend.
 Albeit in heart noble he was and wicht,
 Out of his chalmer go he no might
 For ȝaiking of his woundis newe and greine;
 Bot ane fight of Meliades the scheine
 Micht more him confort, I dar take on hand,
 130 Nor all the leiches into Lumbard land.
 Quhen endit was the battell on this ways,
 All the lordis bounit hame with haill advyfe.

Oft visit hes the King Clariodus,
 And eik the Lumbard knyght that fore woundit was.
 Quhen aweht dayis past war and gone by,
 Meliades hes called privily
 On hir maistres, faying on this maneir,
 ȝe know how Clariodus full deir
 Firſt fould be haldin with my father the King,
 140 Syne with his barrounis, abone all uther thing,
 That for our faikis in hand tuike sic battell,
 And of his woundis he is not ȝit haill ;
 Sen the firſt day that he his chalmer tuike,
 I ȝeid him not to vifie nor to looke.

Hir maistres faid, It war ȝour grit honour
 To vifit him quhilk is of knichtheid flour;
 And now the tyme is maift convenient,
 The King is furth with all his houfhald went,
 And he rycht long thinkis him alone,
 150 Of ȝour cuming he wald be glaid anone.
 Meliades, richt fresch and weill beſeine,
 With hir hes taine twa ladyis fresch and ſcheine,
 With hir awin maistres, digne and verteous,
 [And] paſt to vifie Sir Clariodus ;
 Whair ſcho him fand with few in compagnie,
 On his bed-fyd fitting bot quyetlie ;
 Ane goune of claih of gold his farke abone,
 Furrit with mertrix. His collour changit fone
 At hir incuming, and he on fute up ſtart,
 160 Within his breift for joye danſit his heart ;
 Quhen that he ſaw his ladie moſt beining,
 For joyfulnes a word nicht not out bring.
 With humbill, fober and womanlie effeire,
 Adoun ſcho fat beſydf him in ane chyre.
 And quhen ſcho did behald this luffie knicht
 So fair, fo ȝoung, fo valiand and fo wicht,
 Cupid, that lord, with his ſsharp grindine dairt
 Full fiddanlie hes ſtrukine hir to the heart,
 So that ſcho fat bot with changing hew ;
 170 The fyre of heit it kindlit is of new
 Of luſt within hir breift, birning fo fore,
 That ſcho defyris of this warld no more
 Bot him onlie to have in compagnie,
 That under Mars beine flour of chivalrie.
 This war they wyndit baith in lyk maneir,
 As nicht be fein be thair face and cheir ;

With luif fo fore thair spreitis was bereft,
 That not to speike ane word was left.
 Meliades, rycht lustie and bening,
 150 Said to the squyeris and to the madinis ging,
 Thay zonder moir in chalmer sould disport,
 Whill scho few wordis of counfall sould report
 Of mediceine unto the woundit knicht.
 On this maneir than spake this goodlie wicht,
 O ge my tender freind Clariodus,
 Weill auchtin I of zow to be joyous,
 That to this regiouen brocht hes sic honour ;
 And spacialie, abone all creatour,
 My father aucht to chereis zow, and love
 190 Nixt God and fantis into the hevin above ;
 For quhen his knichtis the battell all refusit,
 Ze that ar zyoung and not in armis usit
 On zow it tuik with manlie countinance,
 And weill mentinet to the uterance.
 Clariodus said, Madame, fo Chryſt me fave,
 It is not I that all the thanke sould have
 Of this battell nor of the victorie,
 The thanke ane uther servit mor nor I,
 That caus was haill of the discomfitour.
 200 Na, said this fair and lustie creatour,
 Nane uther was bot ge, the treuth to tell,
 Quhilk did the ſchame out of the court expell ;
 For had not beine zour honour and bewtie,
 Zon knicht, but faill, had riddin on this contrie,
 Quhilk had beine to this realme ane lake ;
 The laud is zouris, I dar that undertake.
 Hir anſwereit on this wayis Clariodus,
 Madam, I mervell not that ge fay thus,

ȝour noble nurtur and womanheid bening
 210 ȝow sufferis not to say no uther thing,
 Thais wordis came of gritt nobilnes ;
 Nor was my deidis of prafe or worthines :
 Bot for to tell the trewth unfengitlie,
 Ane uther was the caus aluterlie,
 That vincuist was the Lumbard knicht in feild.
 Meliades then reddilie him beheld,
 Saying, That perfoun I wald know I wife.
 Madame, he said, gif ȝe will graunt me this,
 That ȝe will me commend unto that wicht,
 220 And fullie do ȝour biffines and micht,
 That my service thay hald exceptabill,
 And of thair hienes digne and honorabill
 That thay will not my symplenes contene,
 Than fall I gladlie that perfoun to ȝou name.
 At schort, scho fayis, thair is no thing at all
 Efter my micht bot for ȝow do I fall,
 Saiving my honour and my womanheid.
 Madame, he said, Pleis it ȝour guidlieheid,
 ȝe mane it secreit keip and not discure.
 230 Thairto I grant, said scho, I ȝow affuse.
 Madame, he said, ȝe ar Kings dochter deir,
 Reveill me not, as ȝe have height me heir ;
 And gif ȝe doe ȝour pouer, as ȝe lay,
 Anents that perfoun, helpe me mair ȝe may
 Nor ony that be levand now on lyve.
 Now, Lady myne, I will me to ȝow scryve,
 It was ȝour self, if I the truith declaire,
 That only was the caus of my weifair ;
 ȝe war my stong protectour, and only
 240 The caus dreidles of all my victorie : .

Treft weill, Lady, that now I feinȝe nocht ;
 For, be the Lord that all the warlde hes wrocht,
 Only your bewtie and your womanheid
 Put fra my heart all couardice and dreid :
 I do meinȝour mercie andȝour grace,
 For sen the tyme that I faw firstȝour face,
 I haveȝow luifit ouer all eardlie thing ;
 Into my mynd full oft asking,
 That it had stand upon sic ane cace,
 250 Nane upon lyf was abill toȝour grace,
 Bot be hard fighting in fik degree
 Sum deids of armis ordeinit war on hee
 That everie man for dreid sould it forlaike,
 Than wif I weill I suld it wndertake,
 The feild, alswith to win worschipe or die ;
 For ather had beine worschipe unto me
 To wine my lady quhom I luifit so,
 Or to be donne or to be out of woe.
 Then weill lang still held hir Meliades,
 260 Syne unto him scho sayis on this wayis,
 How may I trowȝour lawis, saying thus ?
 ȝe have beine lang into the court with ws,
 And never befor fik thing to meȝe movit,
 Sum tymie I wald perfavit, hadeȝe me luifit.
 Madam, quhen I beganeȝow for to luif,
 My mynd I durst not schaw [ȝow] for repruise ;
 For I toȝow was no comparisoun,
 Sa monie prinſis nobill of renoune
 ȝe had in proffer, quhomȝe lift to take,
 270 And I, unworthie was, I wndertake,
 Into so heigh ane mater to proceid.
 Andȝe, Madame, the rose of lustieheid,

Now at the leift is bund to keip secreit ;
 Quhairfor I traifst, My Hartis Lady fweit,
 Gif ȝow no lift rew on my painis fore,
 ȝe will keip secreit if ȝe will do no more ;
 And as I dar, for my wnworthines
 I cry ȝow mercie, flour of gentilnes,
 As I that fall unto my lyvis end

280 Lawlie ȝow ferve and never ȝow offend.
 Advyfit was this lady quhat to say,
 For scho was wyfe and honorabill ay ;
 ȝit nevertheless luif did hir fo owercum,
 That lang scho sat all speachles and dumbe ;
 And at the laist scho faid, Clariodus,
 Gif it be so that luif I grant ȝow thus,
 ȝe falbe to me trew and diligent,
 Rycht faithfull, secreit and obedient,
 And ower all wemen that ȝe me love and ferve

290 Bot feingeing ay till the day ȝe sterue,
 And ever about to fave my honour,
 And not for lust perlew me as ane lichour ;
 Fynd I ȝow fet to hurt my honestie,
 Dreidles at ȝow I will more greift be,
 And have ȝow in moir haitret and reproufe
 Nor of befor I had ȝow into luife ;
 Gif we guid luif and trewth to uther meine,
 It fall the longer leift ws two betweine,
 Bot gif we schap to erabe our creatour,

300 It fall no longer prosper nor indure :
 Thairfor sic thingis if ȝe lift to fulfill,
 Say on to me, and I fall fay thairtill.
 Madame, quod he, till all that ȝe have faid
 I me conforme, be God that me hes maid,

ȝow never to diffobey, nor ȝit to grieve
 For all the dayis that I have heir to leive ;
 Bot ever moir to folow ȝowr intent,
 Richt as ȝe now give me commandiment.
 Than tenderlie the fair Meliades

310 Kiflit hir knicht into maist gudlie wayis,
 And freindlie in hir armis him refavit
 Alfe far as feho micht gudlie unperfavit.
 When all agreit, than bunden war thir two
 With aithis great, ay to love uthar so
 That it fould lefft withouttin departing.
 Betwixt thir loveris, in ane taikineing,
 Two litill changeis interchangit they,
 In rememberance of thair trouth for ay.
 Of uthars diverse maters spak they fyne,
 320 Whyll bricht Apollo westwart did declyne ;
 Than raife hir maistres fra hir companie,
 And faid that it was supper tyme neir by.
 Meliades than tuik hir [leave with wo ;]
 Bot ȝit hir heart micht not depart him [fro,]
 With easie sichis and inward behalding,
 As for that tyme they maid [thair] depairting.
 Gritlie rejofit was Clariodus,
 That with his lady was comfortit thus ;
 He heallit of his woundis day be day,
 330 Quhill all his painis worne war cleine away ;
 Than passit he to see the Lumbard knicht,
 Him doing comfort oft at all his micht.
 Clariodus in court I let dwell still,
 And of ane uthar mater speik I will.

It is cumin to the King of Spainis eare,
 The wonderfull beawtie and the freisch effeir

Of Mandonet, the luffie creatoure,
 Quhilk dochter was unto the Earle Eftour.
 He thocht he wald have hir in mariage ;
 340 And, with advyse of his haill barrownage,
 Ane fair ambaffat schortlie hes he fend,
 To bring this mater schortlie unto end.
 The meflage buire four knichts, mikle to prye,
 Sir Leonet de Beaulieu wicht and wyse,
 Sir Leonet de Mortemer, Sir Ame de Beaufort,
 Sir Arthur de la Roye, with luffie forte,
 To Eftur cuntrie fought with diligence ;
 Schawing anone thair letters and credence
 Unto the Countes wyse and sapient,
 350 For than the Earle was not at hame present.
 Scho thame refavit with great feift and cheir,
 With companie of ladyis fresch and cleir ;
 And maid them byd, with mirrines and cherifching,
 Wpon hir Lord the Earlis hame cuming ;
 Quhilk at his cuming fairlie can them treit,
 And [did] bring furth his dochter Mandonet,
 Quhilk [pryfit was for wit and rare beautie.]
 Now schort into this mater for to be,
 Sir Leonet hir weddet with ane ring
 360 In the name only of his prince and king,
 And gave to hir ane full rich diamand.
 This beand donne, Earle Eftour, avenand,
 Feifit them gudlie dayis two or three ;
 Syne them rewairdit eftir thair degree.
 Returnit ar thir knichtis hame againe
 Unto their mightie king and soverane,
 Whom in the toun of Walburgh thay fande,
 Bot three days jurnay from Earle Eftours land ;

Rehearfing all [to him] both more and les,
 370 How them entreitit Earle Estours nobilnes,
 And how within a monthis space but more
 Sould be his wadding day ; quhairfore
 He hes gart warne throw all his regioun
 Baith duikis, earlis and knichtis of renoune,
 For to be thair againe the jufling day
 On horse armit redie for tornay.

Clariodus, ryding at his disport,
 He met his fatheris messlage, with reporte
 Of all thir fairfaid thingis to be donne,
 380 Commanding him that he sould speid him foune
 Hame to his cuntrie. And quhen Clariodus
 Had hard thaife tithingis thay have ordanit thus,
 [He] maid the messenger pas to his In
 But wordis mo, and hald him clois thairin,
 Quhill he anon sould schaw him his intent.
 Clariodus is to his lady went,
 Meliades, and tauld hir all the cace,
 Saying, Madame, for all my dayis space
 Sen that I am becum σ our servitour and thrall,
 390 Ather σ our leave heir hartlie have I fall,
 Or in this land at schort I fall abyde
 For weill or wo, betyde quhat may betyde ;
 For σ ow, Madam, I never think to displeis.
 Meliades in hart had litill eis
 When scho had hard Clariodus intent ;
 Saying, My Knicht, richt weill I am content
 That waddit beine σ our sister with the King
 Of Spaignie land, quhilk is ane mightie rigne :
 Bot loath I war, if otherways micht be,
 400 That σ e sould now depart fo far fra me ;

To reafoun \tilde{z} it obey will I ever mo,
 Suppose my will is \tilde{z} e not went me fro ;
 Bot sen it reynes to worschip knichtheid,
 Consent I will, thairfor great God \tilde{z} ow speid ;
 \tilde{z} e fall first leave ask at my father the King,
 Syne speike with me at \tilde{z} our depairting.

Clariodus unto the King is went,
 And of this mater tauld him the intent ;
 Whairof the King was glaid, and faid, Truely
 410 I am content, it is ane fair alay ;
 The King of Spain \tilde{z} e is ane michtie King,
 And eik we fall tham have be that wedding ;
 Have we tham our freindis that be in that countrie,
 And this always cumis weill, as thinkis me.
 His Thefawrer he gart be efter sent,
 And chargit him to give incontinent
 Two thousand florings to Clariodus,
 To support him passing hameward thus.
 He did the King rycht speciallie besike,
 420 That his four fellows pas micht with him eike ;
 To quhilke he grantit upon heartlie wyfe ;
 His leave he tuike schortlie to devyse.
 Clariodus, rycht as the day up cleiris,
 Adreflis him and his four nobill feiris,
 And hes gart graith thair harnes at all poynt,
 That in thair armour thair was no difjoynet.
 Clariodus unto his lady went,
 The uterance to have of hir intent ;
 Speiring at hir quhat colour he sould taise,
 430 Or in quhat hew he just sould for hir faike,
 Or weir in tourney quhile his hame cuming.
 Meliades micht not ane word out bring

Ane weill long space, for inward paine and wo,
 That he shuld pairt so suddenlie hir fro ;
 And quhen that scho ewercam, than said scho thus,
 My best belovit knicht Clariodus,
 Uneis my wofull spreit may susteine
 The hevie pains now that in my breift beine
 For ȝour depairting ; bot, as I said before,
 440 My will I fall constraine with fighis fore,
 Sene with honour may it not remeid,
 And [ȝow] to weir I gif the culour Reid,
 ȝour name and honour wald [I] not impair ;
 Fair weill my knicht, and raught him thair
 Ane heart of gold with stainis casting licht :
 This fall ȝe have in rememberance of richt
 That ȝe my heart have and no mo,
 Quhilk in na maner may be pairtit ȝow fro.
 This heart he tuike, and thankis to hir ȝold ;
 450 And gave to hir ane braclet wrought with gold,
 About hir arme praying hir it to weir.
 Scho killit him with womanlie effeir.
 They tuike thair leave at utheris pitounifie,
 With tirie faces, imbracing tenderlie ;
 And to hir ladyes all gode nicht he said,
 Bot naime he kif for aith that he had maid
 To kifse no lady efter his lady bricht
 Whill that he hade againe of hir ane fight.
 That nicht he and his fellows tuke them rest,
 460 And on the morrow them to the way hes dreſt.
 Clariodus in passing to his countrie
 With his foure fellows, lustie for to fie,
 Thay hapinit in ane blifull morrow scheine
 To ryde out throw ane gudlie forrest greine,

Quhilke callit was the Wode of Eventouris,
 In qubilk oftymes walkit knichts of King Arthouris
 Eventouris feikand, as the wfe was than.

Clariodus faid, that we will everie man
 Eventuris feike be syndrie wayis ryde.

470 Anone thay have depairtit and can devyde.

Clariodus, within a littill spase,
 Ane pitious voice he hard crying Aleace !
 Lamentablie, as it ane woman ware.
 His fteid he reingeit and raid nar,
 And as he followit on the cry,
 He saw foure knichtis enarmit richly,
 Having [with] them ane lady wo begone ;
 Ane littill dwerff fast efter them can gone.
 Quhen s̄cho had of Clariodus ane fight,

480 Scho faid, Have mercie on me, jentill knicht,
 Help, for thy manheid and for thy ladyis faike,
 Me, that am fallie from my hufband taike
 Be the handis of thir knights fellowmle,
 Quhilk hes him leſt woumlit cruellie
 In poynt of death. Than ſaid Clariodus,
 Fair Lordis, be in heart piteous,
 And be affchamit fair ladyes to offend ;
 Weill glaidlier thair caus ſe aught defend.

Sir Knicht, thay faid, Pas quhair ſour erand lyis,
 490 ſour appetite we will ferue in no wayis.

Clariodus faid, Heir I make God judge,
 I fall be deid or ſcho fall have refuge.
 And he anone, inermit all in reid,
 [The quhilk his lady choifit for his weid,]
 With ſpeir in hand, he ſpurit fast his fteid,
 And to the formift knicht hes went gud ſpeid,

And to the erd him drove so fast but ho,
 Whill that his nek on force it birft in two ;
 And he was hurt a litill throw his geir
 500 Be his fellow, bot haill that baid his speir,
 Whairwith he ran upon the other thrie,
 Betwix in quhom begane ane hard mellie :
 Ane uther to the erd he drove adoun,
 His lymb to frusshit, and he fell in fwoun ;
 The lady and the dwerff fell him abone,
 And wald have cuttit his throte rycht sonne.
 Clariodus, thocht that he had mikle adoe,
 Espyit hes, and thir wordis said them to,
 To be so cruell and to flay ane knicht,
 510 Madam, it fettis to na lady bricht.
 The uther twa knichts assenblit on him fast,
 Hard was the feild and fell, quhile at the laft
 Clariodus thocht on his ladie bright,
 And at the thrid knight straik with all his micht,
 Whill that his helme quyte from his heid he straike,
 Mercie he askit then for Chryfis faike,
 And geildit him his fword incontinent.
 The fourt knicht than maid na impediment,
 Bot said, Sir Knicht, we cum \gtrsim our priffoneiris,
 520 And heir I obleifs me and all my feiris
 At \gtrsim our command to stend and at \gtrsim our will,
 So that \ge e lift heir mercie grant ws till.
 Clariodus was woundit in the fyde,
 \gtrsim it never \ge ildis quhile they to mercy cryed,
 For rewth hes refrainit his nobill heart
 From crueltie, and sonne he did advert
 Wnto thir knichtis, and said, For your trespass,
 At \gtrsim one lady \ge e fall ga mercie afs

And forgyenes ; and syne *ȝe* fall me fweir,
 530 On fik maneir never woman [to] deir ;
 Syn to Great Britane paf*s* *ȝe* fall all fweith,
 And for the King the maner all *ȝe* kyth ;
 Syn to the fairest lady in the land *ȝe* speir
 Dwalland in the regiou[n] far or neir,
 And *ȝe*ild gow to that lady benigne,
 Schawing to hir but [ony] fengeing,
 Say that the Reid Knicht hes gow to hir fend,
 Quhilk hartfullie to hir dois he commend.
 Thay fweare all be the ordour of knichtheid,
 540 That in all haift this sould be donne but dreid.
 The lady thankit oft Clariodus,
 Saying, Most nobill knicht and chyvalrus,
 Wyld is the land, and ludging heir is none ;
 Bot if *ȝe* wald disdaine with me to gone,
 My duelling place is at the forrestis end,
ȝe gar thir knichtis also with gow wend
 My husbands frindship with them for to make,
 And I *ȝour* woundis dar weill undertake,
 For I in leichcraft have sum skeill and kuning.
 550 Clariodus hes grantit to this thing,
 And gart thir forsaid knichtis with him ryd ;
 He gart the dwerff with the flaine knicht abyd,
 Whill they fent for him efterwart ; and so
 Togidder with the lady can thay go,
 Whill they com to the mikill forrest end ;
 Then from hors thay did thair discend,
 And with the lady they enterit in the place,
 Quhair thay relavit war with grit solace.
 The knichtis to ane chalmer than thay *ȝe*id,
 560 And laid soft salves to thair woundis reid.

Scho brocht hir Lord unto Clariodus,
 Gylgeam de la Weille, worthie and famous ;
 Quhilk thankit him of his great nobilnes,
 That did his wyfe againe to him redres,
 Putting his bodie into sic eventure,
 And fyne had maid the haill discomfitour ;
 Whairfor he geild him self and all his guide,
 To him quhilk frindlie in his quarrell stude.
 So, be the knichts war to the supper set,
 570 Clariodus fellowis knokit at theȝet,
 For thair nane uthar harberie was about,
 And of thair cuming blyth was all the rowt ;
 Bot sonne thay speirit of Clariodus,
 Gif any wist of sik ane knicht antrus,
 Quhilk from thame twinit in the morrow tyde,
 Walking alleane out throw the woodis wyde,
 In reid arrayit, baith in scheild and speir.
 The Lord ansuerit, Fair knichts have ȝe no feir ;
 I dar weill fay and eike thairat abyde,
 580 War all the knichtis in this warld so wyde,
 Boune unto battell under birneis bricht,
 He micht amongs thame countit be ane knicht ;
 Heir he is ludgit in this ilk place.
 As it befell, he tauld them all the eace.
 Be everie knicht hade tauld his eventur,
 What him betydit as he throw forrest fure,
 Alreadie was the supper to tham dicht.
 Gillgiam de la Weill spake with voice on height,
 My Lordis, ȝe ar all welcum to this place,
 590 Amongis ws tak in patience Godis grace.
 Fair Sir, sweitlie said Clariodus,
 Methinks it best, according war it thus,

Togidder all to soupe, micht it gow please,
 With gone hurt knicht, micht it them easfe ;
 And this I pray gow doe for the lufe of me,
 In hope that we fall all the glaider be.

The Lord him thankit lawlie at his micht,
 Saying, Thais wordis come of ane nobill knicht.
 As he devyfit, so was it donne all swyth ;

600 To supper went thir lordis glaid and blyth,
 And everie man was mirrie and joyous,
 For gud accordance maid Clariodus
 Amongis the knichts with all his diligence,
 And everilke feide forgiven is and offence.

The Lady tuike upon hir great travell,
 Whyll that scho maid him of his woundis haill ;
 Then courtefflie he tuike his leave and wend,
 To lord and lady oft doing him commend,
 To tham and to the woundit knightis thre ;

610 Syn toward Efture land the way tuike he.
 When that the knichtis thrie war haill and found,
 And haillit fyne of everie grevous wound,
 Thay tuike thair leave at lord and lady eike,
 Them thankit fyne with myndis myld and meike ;

And passit fyne in Ingland to the King,
 Declairing him the eace in everie thing,
 How it befell as ge have hard beforne ;
 And how they all oblift war and sworne,
 To geild thair bodies to the fairest wight,

620 That was in Ingland into manis fight ;
 And be the way how all men did thame wife,
 Wnto the guidlie fair Meliades.

The King laid, Freindis have ge no knowleging
 Of him that sent gow with sic tyding.

The knightis faid, No more of him we know,
Bot the Reid Knight he namit was our aw.

The King did send to chalmer for the Queine,
As also for Meliades the scheine,
And gart the knichts rehearfe thair taill all new.

630 Meliades a litill changit hew.

The knichtis faid, Full weill it may be kend,
ȝon is the Lady quhorne to we ar fend.

Anone upon thair kneis in humbill wyse,
Thay fat all thre befor Meliades,

And faid, Madam, heir we ar all, only
Be the Reid Knicht fent, flour of chevalrie,
To ȝour bewtie our bodies for to ȝeild,
As we that vineuift beine with him in feild ;

ȝe doe with ws Lady as lykis ȝow best,

640 ȝouris we ar, demaine us as ȝe lift.

Sumthing abaifit was this guidlie wicht,
Sirs, fcho fayis, I thanke that gentill knicht,

And ȝe also are welcum for his faike,
ȝour priffon falbe soft I wnderataike ;

Go and disport with my father the King,
And dwell alse long as beine to ȝour lyking ;

Syne as ȝe came alfe frelie fall ȝe wend,
For love of him that hes ȝow hither fend.

The king refavit tham on fair maneir,
And faid to them, My tender frindis deir,

650 Heir ar ȝe welcum with me to remain,

Quhen that ȝe lift ȝe may return again ;
We will not hald ȝow heir as priffoneiris,

Bot chereis ȝow as to ȝour stait effeiris.
He gart rewarid tham wonder royallie.

Meliades them treitit gentillie,

And gave them giftis ; and thay anone
 On lawlie wayis hes taine thair leave to gone,
 And to thair cuntrie paffit, quhair that thay
 660 Full vertuoufie leivit thair for ay.

Clariodus hes sped him day and nicht,
 Whill of his fatheris castell he gat a fyght.
 Of his cuming his frindis was full blyth ;
 Thay dreft them to the mariage belyth,
 For on the morne thair tryft was for to ryde,
 The king of Spaine did on thair cuming byde.
 On morrow as the day it waxit licht,
 The court was on horfe alreadie dicht ;
 Fair Mandonet was lufhilie besyne,
 670 In clothing as effeirit to ane queine,
 With croune of gold abune hir hairis bricht
 Of leming stainis casting pleasant licht ;
 The Earle wes cloathit in full rich array,
 With him his Lady fresch as is the May :
 Bot all exceedit them Clariodus,
 In cloath of gold and stainis pretious.
 With nobill court, this royll rout furth raid,
 Whill thay com quhair this mightie King abaid.
 The nobill King gart two Duikes resave
 680 The goun Lady, and hir to chappell have,
 Quhair scho was maryit with great solemnitie,
 And feastit with triumph and royltie ;
 Syn all the day did sing, dance and disport,
 The circumstance war long for to report.
 The king of Spaine he had ane sifter fair,
 Quhilk Donas height of collouris ryght preclaire ;
 This lady oft behald Clariodus
 With frindlie cheir, and luikis amorus,

Of manlie having and knichtlie governance
 690 Heiring the courte greatlie him advance,
 Quhilk it fa far into hir hart can finke,
 Whyll at the laſt of luif ſcho tuike a drinke ;
 So birning was hir heart with inward fyre,
 For thift of love, heat birning defyre,
 That ſcho wes vexit with the feveris quyte,
 Quhairof as now me lift not to indyte.
 The day paſſit, the nicht fonne eſter went,
 On morne the King gart cry ane tornament ;
 Ane hundreth knichts of Spangie war ordand,
 700 Aganis ane hundreth knichts of Eſtour land ;
 On Spaingie fyd was Leonet the knight,
 And Oliphere de Beaulieu bauld and wight,
 Sir Leyon Dormal, Sir Ame de Beaufort,
 Thair namis all it neids not to reporte :
 On Eſturiſ half was Sir Clariodus,
 Sir Palexis baith wicht and chivalrus,
 Sir Amador de Bruſland rycht duchtie,
 Sir Gilgam de la Forrest rycht worthie,
 Sir Richard Maianis of Scottis natioun,
 710 With mony uther knichts of great renoun.
 Quhen they diſjunit had was no delay,
 In knichtlie weidis thay doe thame ſelfs aray,
 And baith the fydis affemblit in the feild,
 With ſpear in hand, and coverit ower with ſcheild ;
 Againis the face of Phebus caſting licht,
 In windois lay the luſtie ladyis bricht,
 Duchefis, countefis and madanis to have fight,
 And eagit lordis that was mikle of might ;
 The King of Spaine, and the Earle Eſture,
 720 And thame ſelfs ilk ane on ane courſour.

With trumpit found the tornament begane,
 Ont throw the feild the knichtis feircely ran ;
 The rafchis of speiris did as the thunder rare,
 Lyke as the darding rumbling in the aire,
 The horfe feit dinnit with noyis full loud,
 Then all abune thame raife into ane cloud
 For fand and duft that thair up raife on loft,
 Of armit men the meiting was unsoft ;
 The speiris brake, the horfe togidder drave,
 730 The scheildis fruschtit and helmes all to clave ;
 The fairfaids knichts togidder did redound,
 Quhilk magrie thame thay fink unto the ground.
 To manis eare full terribill was the raird
 Of horfe and harneis rusching to the eard,
 The bairdit steidis plunging on the greine,
 The awfull ftraiks of knichtis in thair teine,
 The clarounis found, the heraldis voice and cry,
 The cairfull echo galmering to the sky,
 The foming steidis with fweit alse quhyt as fnaw,
 740 With bludie sydis alse soft as foul in schaw ;
 Gois throw the preife, quhile that braith them ferve
 Thair is no mairbut do or schame deserve.
 Clariodus with this git held him fill,
 Whill Eftures folkis abak mauger thair will
 Constrainit war ; and than he belyve
 With all his force amongs [them] he could dryve ;
 All gois to grund befor his mightie speir,
 With birning mynd furth braiding as ane beir,
 As furious lyoun raiging ferce and fell,
 750 So fairis he of knichtheid floure and well ;
 He drove doun hors and knichts upon the greine,
 Was nane of Spangie his fstraik that micht fustine,

They went abake richt fast befor his face,
 Whair ever he come they lift him rune a speace ;
 Throw quhom his fellowis curage tuike anone,
 And ay of Spainȝe schope abake to gone.
 So come thair wnwarlie on Clariodus
 Ane Count of Spainȝe, bauld and chevalrus,
 Quhilk straikethe bucles of his scheild in funder
 760 Richt frelie, and raif the hauberk wnder.
 His foure fellowis him dresslit in his scheild,
 And syne the Earle he fought out throw the feild,
 And strak him to the erd, baith horſe and man ;
 Syne throw the feild efter his horſe he ran,
 And reingeit him, and to the Earle him brocht,
 Saying to him, My Lord, I know gow nocth.
 Then leuch the Earle and said, Forfuith, Sir Knicht,
 770 ȝe have me laid to fleip or it be nicht.
 Gude Sir, he said, or I to luging went
 ȝe me wnarmit, contraire my intent.
 Among thamselfis [thus] they can dispore ;
 The tornament war long for to report,
 Or all thair nobill deidis for to declair,
 Induiring quhile the lune waftwart did repaire
 [And] in his nocturne mantill did cheroude,
 The trumpits blew to the retreit full loud,
 And with their voice the heraldis cryit Ho ;
 And everie knicht did to his luging go,
 And thame wnarmit in chalmeris haistilie,
 780 Araying thame againe full richlie
 In uther clothings, as did thame effeir ;
 Syne to the palice went to thair suppeir.
 Foure aigit knichts the King gart efter fend,
 And foure heraldis that beſt armis kend,

And bade that on thair trewth it fould be schawd,
 Of tornament quha wan [maift] prafe and laud.
 Thay anfweir maid, and faid, with voice on height,
 Thay have weill previt everie nobill knicht
 As men of deidis wondour chevalrus ;

780 Bot all the prafe we gif Clariodus.
 Ryght have \ge jugit, fayis the nobill King,
 He hes the faireft knichtis begining
 That ever I saw, and maift chyvalrus curage,
 Hie God preferve him quhill he be in age.
 The heralds and the knights he gart pas
 Unto his fister, the luflie fair Donas ;
 And bad that fcho sum taikin fair fould fend,
 As he that hade the laude and the commend
 And [the] heigh prafe of the tornament.

800 And so thay did, and to the Lady went.
 Scho him hes fend, wroght full curioufliie,
 Ane plefant wompill, with ftonis fet mightelie,
 Circulit and fet with fubtile work of gold,
 That it ane guidlie ficht was to behold.
 Thir Lordis, at commandement of the King,
 Ar passit to Clariodus the \ge ing,
 Saying, The King hes understanding richt,
 That \ge ouris beine the prafe of everie knyght,
 That hes this day beine in the tornament ;

810 Wherefore the Kingis fister reverent,
 With uther ladyes, hes fent \ge ow ane plefance,
 Off thair bewtie to have rememberance.
 Clariodus than changit hew alyte,
 And faid, I thank my ladyes fair and quhyte ;
 Bot worthier knychtis thair wer the prafe to have,
 And eik moir dingne this plefance to reflave.

Throw the request of lordis that wer thair,
 Reffavit he hes the wompill ferlie fair ;
 And right anone about his arme it band,
 s20 Thanking the King, right lowlie inclynand :
 He gart reward the heraldis richlie,
 With hie voicis they all did Larges cry.
 When suppit hade the fresche Clariodus,
 The four auld knichtis, worthy and famous,
 With him to chalmer he tuik in companie,
 And gave to thame four clothingis of gold mightie.
 And to the Kingis chalmer went ifeir,
 Baith erle, lord, knyght and bacheleir,
 Disporting thame with ladyes of plesance,
 s30 And with young virginis meik of countenance.
 The Kingis fifter fat with Clariodus,
 With humbill cheir, to whome scho speikis thus ;
 Clariodus, It dois gow weill perteine,
 To marie with some guidlie ladie scheine ;
 For whill ge are in this estait, perfay
 Sir, ge be feikand aventuris ay.
 I am (quoth he) of littill availl or might,
 To have in mariage ony guidlie wight.
 Clariodus, scho said, full suith they tell
 s40 That fayes ane man that prafis not him fell
 The moir he beine to prafe with uther men ;
 Sir, be experience this of gow I ken :
 Thus speikand they of materis to and fro,
 Qubill it wes tyme to beddis for to go.
 Indurit long this feift with joy and play,
 Whill at the last Earle Efture on a day,
 With all his court of lordis and ladyis fair,
 Thair leave hes taine, hameward to repaire :

Fair Mandonet remenit with the King.

850 [Oneȝeir did scarce compleit its revolving]
 Whill scho buir him ane sonne height Clariodus
 Efter his eime the gud Clariodus.
 Thay lufit ather uther tenderlie,
 Whom of moir not speike will I.

Erle Esture at his Lady leave hes taine,
 And toward Ingland paslit is againe.
 The way furth ryding with his companie,
 He met ane Squyer musing hevilie.
 The Earle demandit quhy he forie was.

860 My Lord, he said, this is the verie caus ;
 In the land of Galice, my native contrie,
 Thair enterit is, that hidious is to fie,
 Ane lyoun stong and hidious to behauld ;
 Thair is no living creature sa bald,
 That dar his will impunge orȝit refist ;
 He hes all [haill] devorit as he list,
 And waſſit all the cuntrie up and doune ;
 Is nane fo hardie dar make objeȝtioun ;
 And I am feikand, that evill beine to get,
 870 Ane knicht that dar his face againis him fet
 And him distroy and vincis with his brand,
 The quhilk, I traist, no man dare take on hand.
 Than said the Earle swiftlie, I am woe
 That sic ane nobill prince is vexit fo.
 The Squyer tuike his leave, and hyne is went.
 Clariodus unto his taill tuik gud tent,
 And at his Father sonne he aſkit leave
 The stong lyoun in batell him to greive.
 His father is displeasit, and infchew
 880 Dangeris thairin quhilk he nicht nocht elchew.

The uthar with sic instance him besought,
 That he him levit with ane dreidfull thocht.
 Clariodus was glaid in his intent,
 And with his fatheris blissing furth is went,
 Taking his leave at all the companie.
 He callit on Palexis secreitlie,
 And said, Deir Cousing, in Ingland quhen \ge wend,
 In humibill wayis \ge fall doe me commend
 Unto my Lady, fair Meliades ;
 890 Unto hir fyne present, in secreit wayis,
 This courche of plesance, laying to hir plaine,
 Scho wan it at the tornament in Spaine.
 Depairtit they than from uthar anone ;
 The Earle of Efture is to Ingland gone,
 Whair he was weill reffavit with the King
 And all the court ; bot quhen they hard telling
 The perrellous paffage of Clariodus,
 Then they war wofull, sad and dolorus.
 When Palexis saw tyme convenient,
 900 Unto the fair Meliades he went,
 Saying, Madame, Clariodus the knicht
 Oft him commendis unto \ge our beawtie bricht,
 And hes \ge ow fent this courtch of hie plesance,
 Of his service to be in rememberance ;
 And bad me [plane] thir wordis to \ge ow faine,
 \ge wan it at the tornament in Spaine.
 He tauld the laif furth into lang sermoune,
 How he was gaine to fight with the lyoun.
 And quhen his lady underftude and knew
 910 The dreidfull paffage that he did perfew,
 Scho fell on groufe upon hir bed adoun
 With visage wan, and in a deidlie fwoune.

And quhen that fcho owercam, fcho gave a cry,
 Saying, O [wofull] Death I thé defy,
 What may thy cruell dairt doe me moir paine
 Nor have him with a cruell lyoun slaine,
 Whom I luif better nor I do my lyfe !
 Wha fall thé help, Clariodus, in ftryfe,
 Or thé defend againis that felloun beast ?

920 Is this of luif the joy, is this the feast
 That I fall have for trewth and meinit no misf ?
 Ah ! fall I now forgoe my warl blife,
 That so we fould depairt, aleace, my knicht !
 The trewthfullest in love, and gentillest wight,
 Thou was ane that in warl ever I knew ;
 The companie of man for ever adew,
 Efter the fight of thé, Clariodus,
 That was fo gentill and fo gratious.
 Palexis was abaifit grittumlie,

930 And mikill rewth had of this fair lady ;
 He comfortit hir at all his power and micht,
 Saying, Madam, doe notȝour self undicht,
 For, verelie I live in esperance
 Of his returne with joy and esperance ;
 And gif men feeȝow taking sic pennance,
 Thay will ilke deime that is notrew perchance.
 Thus comfortit he this Lady in fum wayis,
 By sweittest wordis that he could devyfe.

Clariodus and his fellow all fweith

940 In land of Galice enterit is belyth,
 And tuike thair ludging in ane fair village
 Neir quhair this beift did the maist outrage ;
 And as Phebus declynit in the west,
 Thay soupit them, and bounit syn to rest.

The heavinis torch uprysing reid as fire,
 The birdis fang with courage and defyre,
 Up raiſe the mirrie lark with ſtevin joyous,
 Up raiſe anone the freſch Clariodus,
 And him full gudlie drefſit in his weid ;
 950 He hard ane meſſ, and glaideſlie could him ſpeid
 Whill he com neir quhair this beaſt repairit ;
 Then to his feir his mynd [he] thus declairit,
 My frind, feine battell is bot aventure,
 And feime that none may be of fortoune fure,
 Gif heir I ſterve befeat or deſtinie,
 To frindis me command for cheritie.
 Discendit is this Knicht, and left his ſteid
 With his fquyer, quha oft bad God him ſpeid.
 He maid ane croſe upon him devotlie,
 960 Towardis this beaſt then paſſit hardilie,
 Whilk was the ſtrongeſt lyoun and maift horibill
 That ever to manis fight was viſible ;
 His awfull cluikis was lang and ſquare,
 Rycht fyd and felterit hang his lyart haire ;
 Scharp was his wapounis, and terribill to behald,
 His terribilnes cannot weil be tauld ;
 Reid was his eine, birnand as ane fyre,
 He raxit him, and, ramping in his ire,
 Quhen Clariodus did neir him aproch
 970 He rumbifchit whill rared everie roch,
 And lape upone him in ane rage, all woode,
 For he that day had gottine no bluide.
 Clariodus him kepit on his ſpeir,
 The quhilke to him miſt do bot litill deire.
 The Knicht, that of his lyfe was in great doubt,
 Full miſtilie ſtrak at the lyoun stout ;

Bot this stong lyoun straike at Clariodus
 So feircelie, and so woundour furious,
 That he umeis nicht defend him still ;
 980 For with his cluikis, persing wounder fell,
 He reft from him dispitiouſlie his scheild,
 And ſkatterit mailges wyd into the feild,
 And fair him woundit with his tufkis keine
 Whill that his bluid ran ſtreimand in the greine.
 The peple fluide on hillis and on height,
 Beholding on the lyoun and the knight ;
 Sore war thair heartis quhan thay ſaw him bleid,
 Oft praying God him to fuckour in neid.
 Hard was the batell, asper, woode and fell,
 990 So long induring that wounder was to tell.
 Thus faught they ſtill whill it was neir the nicht ;
 Clariodus, him failȝeing was the licht,
 And that his ſpeir nicht him no thing availl,
 He drew his fword, and ſharplie did affaill
 This dreidfull beift. And quhen the lyoun ſaw
 Him with his ſchort fword, he fluid the weill les aw,
 And lape at him lyke as he wald him ryfe.
 Clariodus than straike at him belyve
 Under the lymbe and upward in the thie,
 1000 Whair with his fword aue awfull wound maid he.
 Quhen that this beift ſaw furth ſtreiming his bluid,
 He felt him hurt, and ran as he war wod,
 And to the forreſt ſwiftlie could he found,
 The fword with him ſtill ſtikand in his wound.
 Then wonder wofull was Clariodus,
 Quhen with his fword [he] was depairstit thus ;
 And as he fluid and fadlie him bethocht,
 Whither [that] he ſould follow him or nocht,

So come ane Knicht richt lustie to behold,
 1010 And him in armis tenderlie did fold ;
 And Sir, he faid, [ay] blifit be that day
 That ȝe war borne, fa may I [ever] say ;
 ȝe have delyverit me for ever more
 Of wofull torment, and evill woundis fore.
 Clariodus, quhen this ferlie can fee,
 He was abaifit, and faid, Quhat may this be ?
 The Knicht fayis, I fall ȝow tell or I gone ;
 Bot first ȝour woundis I will flanch anone.
 Alfweith wnarmit was Clariodus ;
 1020 And he with diverse herbis vertewus
 Stemit his woundis, and flintit the bleiding ;
 Syne faid he thus, Sir knicht, but failgeing,
 My father was of Portingall ane knicht,
 And eke my mother was ane lady bricht :
 To Wairdis then was givin grite credence,
 Thairfor my mother gart with diligence
 The Waird Sisteris wait quhen I was borne,
 To heir quhat waird thay fould lay me beforne ;
 Agreit thay war, and in melancholie
 1030 Thay wairdit me, gif ane knave chyld war I,
 That efter I was fevin ȝeiris old
 To be transfformit in ane lyoun bold,
 And so to be ay quhile the nobilleft knicht
 Into this wairld under the sunis licht
 Sould draw my blood in battell or in stour :
 I have, alleace, done evill abone measoure,
 Bot now my fault most wicket and proterve
 All finishit is ; quhairfor whill that I sterve,
 I falbe ȝouris , evin so Chryft me fave.
 1040 The fairest castell in Portugall I have,

And greatest lordship eik in that cuntrie,
As it is myne, I geive it gow alfe frie ;
Sir Porrus, in Portingal thay me call.

I geive gow heir ane ring of gold royll ;
I wald convoy gow throw the land glaidlie,
Bot I will not cum upon horse quhile I,
For my trespass, go pairet of pilgramage.
Ather from uther paſſit his voyage.

The Squyer that was with Clariodus
1050 Said unto him, My lord, it standis thus ;
I wald anone be knichtit of gour hand,
I am ane nobill, ge fall understand,
And Guy de la Riviere thay me call,
Lord of that ilk my father is at all.
Clariodus alſweith then maid him knicht ;
Syn on thair horfis munitit baith on height,
And to the feitie went, quhair baith them met
Full monie ane man of micht thair at the get,
Halfand him with triumph, laud and glorie,
1060 Quhilk great joy he fand of his victorie,
Unto his Innis dois him convoy ;
Quhair that his hoft refavit him with joy,
And had him unto ane chalmer him to reſt,
[And] of his arming doing him deveſt,
As he that werie was with hard fighting,
With grivous woundis that war fore gaiking.
For his hurting his hoft was fore adreid,
He cauſit him to ſup and go to bed.
On morrow the new maid knicht, Sir Gwy, gart wryte
1070 Letters at length, in quhilk he gart indyte
The maner of the battell, all at right,
Betwixt the awfull lyoun and the knicht,

And to the King of Galice hes thame fend.
 And quhen this thing was to his Hienes kend,
 Grit glaid he was, and all his court also ;
 He gart four knichtis furth them dres, and go
 Clariodus to bring to his prefence.
 The knichtis paslit with great diligence
 Unto the feitie, quhair they met Sir Guy
 1080 The new maid knicht, and thay full worthilie
 At him speirit quhair was Clariodus.
 And he againe to them did anfweir thus,
 He is in his bed, he isȝit werilie,
 Dreidlie thairof ȝe awcht have none ferlie ;
 For had ȝe feine him in the stour as I,
 ȝe wald have littell wunderit thocht he ly :
 Bot I fall fee if he awakis ȝit,
 And sijn anone ȝow anfweir bring of it. .
 He went belyve and tauld to him the cace,
 1090 How that four knichtis cumin for him was,
 Unto the Galice King him for to bring.
 Fra tym that he had knowledge of this thing
 Anon he him dreslit in his weid.
 Sir Guy full glaidlie for the knichtis ȝeid,
 And tham allswyth brings into his prefence.
 Thay hellit him all four with reverence,
 And schew to him, as ȝe have hard report,
 How that the nobill King did him exort
 To cum to him withoutin taryng.
 1100 He thaim refavit with great cherisching,
 Saying, I fall obey the King his will,
 And wunder glaidlie his bidding fall fulfill.
 Syn at his host he tuike his leave to wend,
 And fudanlie did on his horfe affend,

And raid furth to the Kingis palace richt,
 And from his horfe anone can licht.
 The knichtis him convoyit to the King.
 The King wpraise and come to his meiting.
 Clariodus upon his kneis sat dounie,
 1110 And courtefflie did helse his Hie Renoune.
 The King in armis hes him taine aloft,
 He thankit him baith heartfullie and oft
 For flauchter of the lyoun wode and fell ;
 Saying to him, Welcum of knichtheid well,
 That hes rescourfit my realme with hard fighting,
 And maid hes of my pepill ransoming ;
 Therefor the third pairt of my realme heir I
 To gow and gouris do give perpetually.
 Clariodus inclynit to the King,
 1120 Thanking his Heenes into mikill thing ;
 Thus saying, Sir, ge do me honor more
 Nor I defervit ever or could ; quhairfore,
 To doe gow plefance God gif me grace,
 In this cuntrie or in fimm uther place.
 The King went to his denner into hall,
 And on the forsaid foure knichtis gart call,
 And to ane chalmer Clariodus gart leid,
 For git his woundis war both greine and reid ;
 He gart for leiches all the cuntrie search,
 1130 And brocht the beft [that] men did of reherfe,
 Qubilk schortlie hes taine him into their cuire ;
 He haillit him of his woundis haill and fure.
 And quhen the King was fet to his denneir,
 Sir Gwy all haill declairit the manneir
 Betwix the lyoun and Clariodus
 Of the strong batell wod and furious.

The King rycht greatlie wouderit at his taill,
Sa did the lords all at the tabill haill.

I leave the King thus fitting at his tabill.

1140 Clariodus with knichtis honorable
Was servit in his chalmer with alkin thing
That unto his estait was pertining.
So come to him ane great chirurgiane,
Be the Kings ordinance his hurts for to fane.
This man in fapience was ane maister great ;
It neidis not all things for to repeit,
Bot finallie his woundis beine all feine,
The herbe he fand that was laid on tham greine,
Quhairof he espyit sonne the vertew,
1150 Sayand, the herbis kynd he weill knew ;
He laid it on the wounds againe, but fabill,
And faid, it hes beine to gow profeitable ;
I pray gow be of comfort gud and blyth,
With Godis grace ge fall recover sweith,
That ge may ryde, and on horse armis beir,
And for gour lady breke alse great a speir
As ge have donne in tornament befor ;
Have nobill curage and be glaid thairfor :
Thair fill into his bede he gart him ly,
1160 And dynit thair with knichtis stading by :
When he his woundis had anoyntit all
With pretious salves and balmes maist royall,
Into his Innis into the toune he went.
Richt glaid [then] was the King in his intent,
[That] he remainit in his companie,
Clariodus, [the] flour of chevalrie.
Quhen he had dynit, fra the buird he raiſe,
And glaidlie to Clariodus he gais,

Comfortit him with wordis tenderlie ;
 1170 And he againe him thankit courteslie.
 The King gart fend to chalmer for the Queine,
 And for hir dochter, and uther ladyis scheine ;
 And thay ar cuming at his ordainance,
 Whome for to fe it was ane great plefance.
 Clariodus hes maid great reverence
 Unto the Queine, so great of excellence,
 And wald have ryffline, bot the King wald nocth.
 So deir he had his bed with bargain bocht :
 Scho cherisit him, and did him great plefance,
 1180 His deidis doing greattumlie advance,
 And doune s̄echo fat upon his bed fyde,
 And with him speiking thair did long abyde.
 Then faid the King unto Clariodus,
 If it micht make gow mirrie and joyous,
 My dochter fall ryght glaidlie to gow sing :
 Quhairon he faid, I pray gow ower all thing
 To sing ane song : the King did hir command ;
 And s̄echo begane anon without demand,
 And with ane voice that plefant was to heir ;
 1190 Of quhois song Clariodus had gud cheir,
 So weill s̄echo song it eatit him of his noy.
 Clariodus faid to the King, Ma foy,
 S̄it hard I never sic singing to this day,
 Into na cuntrie, of fa gyoung ane may ;
 For s̄echo was s̄it bot fevin geiris of age,
 Thocht nature had put hir in sic curage.
 Lang tyme remainit thay with Clariodus,
 To hold him out of thochtis langorus.
 On this ways daylie, schortlie to indyte,
 1200 Him visit King, Queine, and ladyis quhyte ;

And still with him remainit leichis gud,
 Whyll he was haill of woundis. To conclude,
 Now leave will I Clariodus heir still,
 And of ane uther mater speike I will.

The four trew fellows of Schir Clariodus

In heartis war all sad and dollorus

For langour [that] thay could get na tyding
 Of him thay lufit atoure all eardlie thing.

Palexis and his brother Amadoure,

1210 Baith day and nicht oppreflit with langour,
 Unto thair uther two brether hes thame dreft,
 Richard de Maiance, Gilȝeam de la Forreft,
 Saying to them, We are accordit thus,
 We go to pas and feike Clariodus,
 And ȝe two here to remaine with the King,
 Ay of the court to fend us sum tydeing.
 On this ways beine agreit finallie,
 Thir two ar pallit to the King in hy,
 And askit leave to pas the said voyage.

1220 Thay war grantit with ane blythe visage.
 Thay tuike thair leave anoue at King and Queine,
 And at Meliades the lustie lady scheine,
 Quha callit on Palexis secreitlie,
 Saying, Commend me oft and hertfullie
 Unto Clariodus, gif ȝe him find,
 And say, fike langour deiddie dois me bind,
 That gif I hear no tydingis haitilie,
 Than daith fall me devoure but remedie ;
 And in taikin ȝe fall bide him take
 1230 This heart of gold, quhilk is of culoure blake ;
 Bide him it culour alse quhyt with plefance,
 As it is blake with forrow and pennance.

Thay tuike thair leave and to thair horse they went,
 And sped them fast with travell diligent
 Whill thay had paslit the boundis of Ingland,
 And then strange cuntries and wyde thay fand,
 And ever efter Clariodus thay speir,
 Bot na wit gat thay of him far nor neir ;
 Then war thay wounder wobegone and fad,
 1240 Deiming fum mischance him happinnit had.
 When thay had fought him in mony far cuntrie,
 Thay happinit in ane wode with tries hie,
 Quhilk for to pas was strange and perrilus,
 Whair whyllume walkit feir knichtis antrus.
 Thay two enterit in at the forrest syde,
 Whair sonne thay harde ane litill thame besyd
 Ane petious cry lamentabill to heir ;
 Then can Palexis at his fellow speir,
 Heir $\text{\textit{ge}}$ $\text{\textit{g}}\text{one}$ voice that beine rycht lamentable ?
 1250 Quhat ever it be, to ws it war meritabill
 To fuccour at our mycht $\text{\textit{g}}\text{one}$ creature.
 Then spurrit they with diligence and cure ;
 Then at the laist thre knichtis they can sie,
 The quhilks, with hartis full of crueltie,
 Ane naikit man hade bunde rycht fellounlie,
 Wha ceiflit never mercie for to cry.
 Palexis said, Fair Sirs, be $\text{\textit{g}}\text{our}$ leave,
 That man $\text{\textit{ge}}$ do murther and mischeve ;
 It is agauns the ordour of knichtheid
 1260 To do fa cruell and fa foule a deid.
 Thay said anone, The thing that we doe heir
 $\text{\textit{ge}}$ can it not remeid on na maneir.
 Quoth Amadour, $\text{\textit{ge}}$ fall him leave with us,
 Or him defend with deidis chevalrus.

Thir knichtis thre withouttin wordis mo
 Rycht cruellie fet on the brether two.
 Palexis hes the formift knicht borne dounie,
 For he was wicht and mekill of renoune,
 And with the fall his kne baine brake in two.

1270 Then the foure knichtis can togider go,
 And two for two thay fought full fellowunlie,
 And straike at uthar wonder cruellie :
 Bot lang the battell might not thus induire,
 For Sir Palexis and worthie Amadure
 War hardie knichts, and wounder strong in feild
 As ony micht be helmed wnder scheild ;
 Thir knichtis two behuifit for to die
 Incontinent, or for to ȝoldin be ;
 And quhen they vincult beinne aluterlie,
 1280 Thay askit mercie wonder petioullie.

Palexis faid, Than or we grant ȝow grace,
 ȝe mon all thre make aith into this place,
 That our command ȝe trewlie fall fulfill
 [In] what so ever we ordane ȝow till.
 Thay grantit this, and fwore as thay than faid ;
 And than anon thir [twa] brether them bade
 In Ingland pas to Philipon the King,
 And unto him ȝeild but taryng ;
 And fay that Amadur and Palexis
 1290 ȝow fent unto his excellent nobilnes,
 Declairing him without disimulance
 Of this mater all haill the circumstance.
 Thay grantit to this ordinance all thrie.
 The bundine knicht then gart thay loufit be,
 And gart them alfo ask him forgivenes,
 For he was knicht of full great worthienes :

And bad ilk knicht thay fould thair namis schaw ;
 Ane of them faid, If it lykis gow for to knaw,
 Sir Gault de le Spyne I am but circumstance,
 1300 My fellow eike height Ame de Plefans,
 Cardrois de la Reffe they call ȝon woundit knicht ;
 In Provence cuntrie beine my dwelling ryght,
 My fellow is of Flanders natioun,
 The hurt knicht is of Pollis regioum ;
 Ilk ane of ws come honour to conquer,
 And preffloners all caught as ȝe fall heir :
 Within ane myle fra hyne, in ane castell,
 Dwellis ane knicht wounderfullie cruell,
 Quhilke is The felloun callit but petie ;
 1310 Ane wyfe he had of wounderfull beawtie ;
 So com ane knicht by rydand upon eace,
 And revest hes the Lady fair of face ;
 Synfyne all knichtis cumand throw his land
 He dois them viquife with his [michty] hand,
 And garris them fweir to do sielyke as he
 To uther knichts cuming in his cuntrie,
 His lady traifing for to have againe ;
 We thre hapinnit with him to be taine,
 Quhairfor this knicht we tuike in this maneir
 1320 To fave our aithes, traist weill this is no weir ;
 Men callis him The felloune but petie,
 For fen his Ledie revischt was, never he
 Did grace nor petie to no creatoure ;
 And he is wicht and hardie over meafour ;
 He laikis no thing langing to knichtheid,
 Saif he is only erwell of his deid.
 Ather from uther can depaert anone ;
 Syn thir thrie knichtis ar to Ingland gone.

When they war weill recoverit of thair fore,
 1330 To Philipone the King they went but more ;
 [And], as they height, they did them to him ȝeild,
 Schawing how they owercummin war in feild
 Be Palexis and Amadour in feir :
 So furth to him declairing the maneir,
 The King hes them receivit tenderlie,
 Saying thir wordis to thame stading by,
 More am I holding to Sir Clariodus
 And to his coufings bauld and chevalrus
 In conqueis of my honour and renoune
 1340 Nor all the knichtis of my regioun.
 He thame feifit and treitit nobillie,
 And thame rewardit wounder michtilie.
 Thay tuk thair leave, and paslit to thair land,
 Quhen so they hade compleitit thair command.
 Palexis now and Amadur also
 War feant two mylis the Kingis caftell fro
 Of Galice, quhair Clariodus beine ȝit,
 For so the cuntrie maid thame for to wite.
 Thay ludgit in ane toune that heich was wallit,
 1350 And Joyous to name it was callit.
 Thair hofst them tauld how that Clariodus
 Was interteinit in that cuntrie famous,
 And how he vinquist had the lyoun stong,
 With all the proces and circumfancis long ;
 Whairof thay war rycht glaid in thair intent.
 Airlie in morrow thay in palice went,
 Whair they met with Sir Guy the new maid knicht.
 He did them glaidlie welcum at his micht.
 From them he paslit to Clariodus
 1360 That was in chalmer, faying to him thus,

Two knichtis at theȝet ar lichtit doune,
 Rich woundour fair and gudlie of faschoune ;
 To speike with ȝow ar thair desyris maist.
 Clariodus than sped him furth in haist,
 Rycht woundour glaid and joyous of his cheir,
 For weill he trowit thay war his cufflings deir.
 When he tham saw, he did tham imbrace,
 And tenderlie tham kisst in that place.
 Thair cuming than went to the Kingis eare,
 1370 Whairof he had ane joy, commixt with feare
 That thay from him fouldest fetch Clariodus,
 Whilk in his eyes femit fo gratiouſ
 That he him lovit evin as his awin lyfe.
 For the two knichtis he fent belyve ;
 And quhen thay war brocht to his prefence,
 Thay saluft him with kinglie reverence,
 And he refavit tham in fair maneir,
 Saying, Welcum ȝe ar my frindis deir ;
 Sumthing I am adread into my heart,
 1380 That ȝe from me Clariodus depairst ;
 And if it be the caus of ȝour cuming,
 ȝe fall my heart wnglaid in mikill thing ;
 ȝit glaidlie for his faik I fouldest ȝow love,
 That this regionn hes brocht from sik unrove ;
 His frinds fall ever welcum be to me
 So long as I am King of this cuntrie.
 The lordis them receavit all about,
 Knichts, Ladyis and all the luftie rout.
 Clariodus then tuike in secreit wayis,
 1390 And speirit all the maner and the gyfe
 Of all the court of Ingland how it stude,
 And of Meliades baith fair and gude ;

And thay at schort hes tauld him [all] the cace,
 Bot I no thing rehearse will in this place
 Of hir luif taikin, quhilk I let owergone.
 The King unto his denner went anone ;
 And after denner to the feildis went
 All throw ane meid of flouris redolent ;
 Enlange ane river maid thay thair walking,
 1400 Whair sum did play and uther sum did sing,
 Sum rowit furth on galayis on the fluide,
 Sum beholding on the feildis stude,
 Sum with his fellow raillit and maid sport,
 In joy and bliffe was all the luftie fort.
 The King hes gart Clariodus with him go,
 Sir Palexis and Amadour alfo,
 And with his knichtis causit them to gone
 To paftyme, and to putting of the stone :
 Bot thay all uthar knichtis did exceid,
 1410 To quhilke the King soberlie tuike heid ;
 He all considerit and held him still,
 Whais great wifdome dantit ay his will.
 Thir brether greatlie commendit of the King,
 As he them thocht lyke in everie thing
 Unto thair Eam, Clariodus the gud ;
 It schew full weill that thay war of a blude.
 Quhen thay had lang disportit in the meid,
 The King tuike Sir Clariodus and ȝeid
 Unto the palice, saying to him thus,
 1420 Is it ȝour will, my freind Clariodus,
 That ȝour two eufings go and fe the Queine,
 And my dochter, that ȝoung of ȝeiris beine ?
 Sir, said the Knicht, as lykis to ȝour Grace.
 Then enterit they anon wnto the place,

And to the Queinis presence fonne thay geid,
 And s echo, of ladyes, full of womanheid,
 Adrefit hir and came in thair presence,
 Whilke mirrour was of bewtie and clemence ;
 With hir was Cader hir ȝoung dochter scheine,

\ 1430 In ȝeuth uprysing wounder fair to feine.
 Unto the nobill princes faid the King,
 Take thir two knichtis into commoning,
 That new beine cuming, and schort them with plefance.
 And s echo obeyit with humbill reverence.
 With uther knichts ȝoung ladyis did disport ;
 To tell the faschioun it war lang to report.
 Still at thair pleafance they remainit fo
 Whill tyme was cum supper to go to.
 When they had souppit and maid rycht merrie cheir
 1440 They them disportit on this same maneir.
 When tyme was cum to beddis for to gone,
 Then everie man went to his bed anone.
 Four knichtis did Clariodus convoy
 Unto his chalmer, quhair maid was mekill joy,
 And courfis came of meitis dalicat,
 Of michtie wyne, and spycis aureat.
 Lang quhan they feifit had in this maneir,
 To bed they went, baith knicht and baicheleir.
 Devoydit was the chalmer fuddenly,
 1450 Clariodus and his confings him by ;
 To bed is went all seereit bot them thre ;
 Of diverse thingis speirit at them he,
 And thay him answarit as he did inquire.
 Then faid Clariodus, My freindis deir,
 I have beine thinkand on ȝour mariagis,
 ȝe fall that be with great lynagis ;

Amadur, $\text{\textit{ze}}$ fall have in wadding
 The lustie sister of the Spanisch King
 Of Spain $\text{\textit{ze}}$ land with $\text{\textit{zow}}$ to go to bed ;
 1460 And Palexis, my couising, $\text{\textit{ze}}$ fall wed
 The King of Galice dochter to $\text{\textit{zour}}$ wyfe;
 Be now content or never in $\text{\textit{zour}}$ lyfe,
 It is not lang fen $\text{\textit{ze}}$ hir faw, trow I.
 Weill, Sir, quoth they, $\text{\textit{ze}}$ sport $\text{\textit{zow}}$ merrily,
 What now fay $\text{\textit{ze}}$ of $\text{\textit{zour}}$ awin wadding.
 Quod he, That fall I efterwart inbring
 When $\text{\textit{ze}}$ beine waddit and to honour brocht ;
 $\text{\textit{zow}}$ to displease this mater speik I nocht,
 And if thairto $\text{\textit{zour}}$ self be nocht content,
 1470 Na mair thairof to speike I me affent.
 Be this Amador fell found on fleip,
 The quhilk Palexis perfavit and tuike keipe,
 And this unto Clariodus he said,
 Meliades, that fresh lustie $\text{\textit{zoung}}$ maid,
 As $\text{\textit{ze}}$ me bad, I gave the [hie] plesance,
 Declairing hir, with everie circumstance,
 The maner haill and caus of $\text{\textit{zour}}$ byding ;
 Bot quhen scho wist that it was futhfaist thing,
 That to the lyoun $\text{\textit{ze}}$ sould geive battell,
 1480 Hir bricht culour sonne waxit wan and paill ;
 Scho sounit deidlie, that peitie was to fee,
 In warld micht no ladie more dolour drie :
 It war ower lang to tell $\text{\textit{zow}}$ all the cace,
 How scho with teiris hir beawtie did deface ;
 Receave this harte of gold inamellit blake,
 Scho bad $\text{\textit{zow}}$ in rememberance it take,
 And it to make alse quhyt with conforting
 As it is blake with sorrow and weiping.

The heart recevit has Clariodus,
 1490 And kiflit it weill oft, faying thus,
 Maist fair of wichtis, faireft to praiſe,
 Naught may my wits all inewgh suffais
 ȝour Ladyſchipe to thanke with humbilnes
 According to ȝour trewth and gentilnes ;
 When fall I doe to ȝow fa great plefance,
 As ȝe for me have ſufferit oft pennance ?
 Meliades, wald God now [that] ȝe wiſt
 That ardant heat, langour and birning thriſt
 On me ſo fore for laſing for ȝour preſence,
 1500 Quhilke beine my warldis joy and ſuffiſcence.

He thus regrating, Palexis fleipit ſound
 When Phebus bricht had rune his courſe around,
 And ſchew his face into the orient.
 Clariodus he raife, and furth he went
 Unto the King, faying on this maneir,
 My couſingnis as ȝe fe ar cum heir
 For me, that heir hes maid lang fojorning ;
 Now grant me leave to pas unto the King,
 Whilk ſpeciallie thir knichts hes for me fend.
 1510 Woe was the King quhen verilie he kend,
 That he no longer with him wald abyde ;
 Then ſaid he thus, Seing it man ſo betyd
 That ȝe from us neidis mone depaſt,
 I ȝow beſeike and pray with all my hart
 That ȝe wald grant at my defyre aue thing.
 Clariodus ſaid anon to the King,
 ȝe fall me no tyme pray, bot ay command.
 And I thairto obey fall but demand.
 The King ſaid thus, Clariodus,
 1520 Advyſe quhat is beſt and moft pretious

In my realem, and takit I gow pray ;
 For unto gowit falbe readie ay.
 Then, Sir, said he, seing it be gour pleasance,
 That I fall afke efter gour ordinance,
 Heir is Palexis, my freind and my coufing,
 Whom as myself I luif but fainȝeing,
 I afke gour daughter to him in mariage,
 If that ge wald disdaine with our linage
 For to allay of gour great gentilnes ;

1530 And I ane thing fall height gow heir dreidles,
 That he falbe, within ane geiris space,
 Ane crounit king, throw help of Godis grace.
 Blyth was the King of thir wordis, and said,
 Clariodus, I hald me weill apayed.
 This Knicht anone sat doune upon his kne,
 And thankit him with great humilitie.
 The King anone has gart be brocht the Queine,
 And fair Cedar, his luffie dochter scheine.
 Clariodus hes fent for Palexis.

1540 When Amadur and he cummand was,
 The King said to his dochter on this ways,
 Heir ar thrie knichtis mikill for to praisē,
 With ane of them if ge sould waddit be,
 Whom wald ge chose, say on, dochter, let fee.
 Thus unto hir he said in his bourding.
 And scho to him hes so maid answeiring ;
 Of thir knichtis my chose if I sould have,
 Clariodus I chuse above the leave,
 [Of knichtis best, sic maik wold I like well.]

1550 Then luich the King, and said, Its na mervell
 Suppose ane elder woman had it said,
 When ge, dochter, that beine so gyoung ane maid,

Hes chos'en him to be gour paramour.
Clariodus than changit his culour.

Now in this mater to be schort,
Seing lang it war the proces to report,
The King with all his lordis beine advyfit,
[It was a thing quhiilk gretumly they pryst]
That Palexis the frefch and nobill knicht
1560 Sould wad anon the Kingis dochter bricht ;
And efter this ane bifchop gar thay bring,
And handfaft them but langer taryng.
Clariodus gave hir ane rich coller
With gold all fet and michtie ftonis deir,
Togidder with ane diamond bricht,
At his depairting, as ane gentill knicht ;
The officeris and fervants in the hall
He gave rewardis, and monie giftis royall.
The new maid Knicht forgot he noct,
1570 Ane cloath of gold full curiouulie wrocht
He gave to him, and uther giftis mo.
At King and Queine they tuike thair leave to go,
And of the court at everie lord and knicht ;
Syn towards Ingland tuike thair gaitis rycht
With great triumph, honour and commend.
So of this first Buike I make ane end.

THE SECUND BUIK
OF
CLARIODUS.

THIR Knights ryding towardis their contrie,
Out of Ingland quhen thay war jornayis thrie
Thay enterit in ane vaill luftie and greine,
Throw quhilk thair ran ane feimlie river scheine ;
On it was maid ane brig with pilleris wight,
Whair that on bread ane man nicht pas furth right,
By quhilk to thame was no readie way ;
And on the brig alse fonne as enterit thay,
Aue armit Knicht thay met, with fpeir in hand,
10 Sayand to them, Fair Siris ge mone stand,
Or ge ower pas ge fall have mair adoe.
Soberlie faid Clariodus him to,
What beine the caus that ge wald flop our way ?
Then faid the Knicht, I fall it to gow fay ;
Ane of gow thre rycht heir man gif me feild,
And if that I him vinquise under scheild,
Incontinent ane uthar I fall fay,
Or ower the brig ge fal pas on na way.

If that it may na uthar wayis be,
 20 Then, said Clariodus, cum on thy way to me.
 Togidder joynis thir knightis of renowne,
 Thair meiting was baith hard and felloun,
 And on thair steidis them togidder bair ;
 Thair speiris flew in peiffis in the air ;
 Thair bodies met with sik ane michtie force,
 Quhilk to the eard this Knicht fent man and horle.
 Clariodus git held his fadill still,
 The uther rafe with force and eiger will.
 Clariodus discendit from his fleid,
 30 And to this Knicht hardilie he geid.
 They met with awfull fwordis scharpe of fleill,
 Full cruellie as can thair heidis feill ;
 They smote at uther as bairis wode and keine,
 Or as twa rampand lyounis in thair teine,
 That in thair breifts furious was and wode ;
 Endlang thair fydis ffreimit doun the blude ;
 The rivar dymit with thair dints in ire ;
 Heich from thair helmis the sparkis flew of fyre.
 Full awfull war thir knichtis to behold,
 40 With irefull straikis quhilk micht not be told ;
 Ather from uther feircle dang the scheild,
 As alse the mailgeis scatterit in the feild ;
 They hew throw helme, throw habergeone and plait,
 Whill that thair fwordis with bluid war wat.
 Palexis than and Amadur also
 Was for thair Eame in heartis wounder woe,
 Beholding on the michtie campioun,
 Whilk was in fight alse feirce as ane lyoun,
 Full mikill of bodie and alse of height,
 50 With gyen corporis wounder strong and wicht.

So cruell battell had they never feine,
 They feamit as two dragounis wode and keine ;
 Thay wint thair had not beine sic fighting fell
 Bot gif it had beine betwix twa feinds of hell.
 This asper batell wode and wehement
 Wox tham betwine so fcharpe and violent,
 That long it might not indure nor left,
 On ather syd behuifit them to reft ;
 Baith akit was thair armis and thair handis,
 60 Thay stond abake and leanit them on thair brandis,
 And up thay put thair visouris from thair face
 The air to take, and braith for to purchas.
 When they had lang tyme them reposit thus,
 We ar weill reftit, said Clariodus,
 Now let us enter new to our combat.
 The uther faid, Be him that me creat,
 Thow may weill thinke it is aneuch to thé,
 It is ane fill and sum pairt mair to me ;
 70 Þit had I never half sa mikill adoe ;
 I thé befeike that firſt thow fchaw me to
 Thy name, that I afke for thy knichtheid,
 Againe or we to new battell proceid ;
 This afke I only for thy nobilnes.
 The uther faid, That dar I doe doubtles,
 Clariodus to name men dois me call.
 The Knicht then inclynit law withall,
 And fra his head his hewmund did unplace,
 And be the point his fword, with humbill face,
 He tuike, and to Clariodus he ȝeid,
 80 Sayand, O flour of armis and of knichtheid,
 To thé I ȝeild me as to the worthiest Knicht
 Of all this warl, and to the gentileſt wicht ;

And unto him anone his fword he gave,
 And said, My lord Clariodus, refave
 My manreid for now and ever mair ;
 I knew gow not, quhilk me repenis fair.
 Clariodus him receaves sweitlie
 Into his armis, quha thankis him heartfullie.
 This Knicht him akit forgiveines

90 That he of folie was fa rackles,
 To fight with him quha rather he fould serve ;
 Sayand, My lord, greate blame I do deserve ;
 I have this long tyme levit wicketlie,
 Of my trespas I ask God mercie ;
 For throw my cruell lyfe and tyrranie,
 Men callis me The Felloun but peitie,
 For Joyfa Ramose they war wount me to call,
 The caus of this I fall gow tell at all.
 He schew him furth the maner les and more

100 Of his lady as ȝe have hard before,
 Fra him how echo was revifchit be ane knicht.
 Clariodus all wnderstud at ryght,
 Palexis had tauld him ever ilke deale.
 He said, Sir Knicht, the caus I know full weill,
 It was me tauld or this quhair that I raid ;
 Thairfor forget it, sen thair is no remeid
 For to make cair for it or ȝit regrate,
 Alse fair ane lady ȝe may have I waite.
 He said, Sir, full suith it is that ȝe fay ;

110 Bot of ȝour gentilnes I gow pray
 To go with me this nicht to my ludging,
 For it is now rycht lait in the evining,
 And far alse to ane uthar harberie place.
 Clariodus him glaidlie grauntit hes.

Now togidder thir Knichtis went in feir
 Unto this Lordis castell schyning cleir,
 With courious kirmellis and goldin chainis bricht.
 [When the varlotis saw The Felloun knicht]
 Then doune they let the draw brig fall anone ;
 120 And thay glaidlie ar to the castell gone,
 Whair that with mikle myrrines and joy
 The Knichtis to ane chalmer thay convoy,
 Whilk was arayit wounder pretioufie
 With gold, and filk and arais full michtie.
 When that the supper was alredie dicht,
 And all to hall went, this faid Knicht
 Unto Clariodus faid in this maneir,
 Ten priffloneris I have with me heir,
 Whilk for gour faik full glaidlie falbe fred ;
 130 And syn he gart them to the hall be led,
 And bad them say, Clariodus that he
 Them loufit out of priffloun ranfoune fre ;
 And syne anone, dispuilgeit of his hate,
 Befor thir priffloneris on kneis fate,
 And askit thame forgivennes everie knicht,
 Saying, he fould amend at all his micht.
 Thir wordis he faid so lamentabill,
 The knichtis wox in heartis merciabill,
 And him forgave with tender imbracing.
 140 Clariodus, with rewth to fe this thing,
 The teiris ower his cheikis haillit doun,
 So pitious was thair meitting and fermoune.
 When this was done, they all to supper went
 Of nobill cheir, quhair nougth was indigent ;
 Full royallie thay fure with abundance
 Of everie thing that might do them plefance.

In mides of this fupper raife this Knicht,
 Whilke lord was of this place, and passit ryght
 Unto ane closit, and with him brocht againe
 150 Rose water cleir, doing thir wordis faine,
 I am callit The Felloun but pitie,
 For all men speikis of my crueltie ;
 Now think I to leive so vertouflie,
 That my gud word fall go alfe opinlie :
 Thairfor if it micht pleasez our Lordshipis all,
 From thence Le Fortoun de Amure ge me call,
 And I forever renunce all felonie.
 Clariodus weill wnderstyd the quhy
 That he the water brocht in coup of gold,
 160 With ane new name that he be baptisit wold ;
 Whairfor the coup he held with hand on height,
 And let the water fall upon the Knicht,
 Sayand, Le Fortoun de Amouris I the call ;
 Fra laughter then ilk ane could neer devall ;
 Ane noyis up raife that mirrie was to heir,
 When he was baptisit on this maneir.
 When they had soupit with mirrines and joy,
 Clariodus to chalmer thay did convoy
 And his two coufingis, quhilk to bed ar gone
 170 Whill bricht Phebus on morrow com anone.
 Rycht as Clariodus anone up rose,
 Le Fortoun de Amouris to his chalmer gois,
 And with him brocht baith harneis, scheild and speir,
 And all that ganit to ane knicht to weir,
 And tham presentit to Clariodus,
 First helfing him, than saying to him thus,
 Sir, brokin ar your harnes in sum part,
 Quhairfor I gow befeike with all my heart

That \ge wald weir this harnes for my faike.
 180 He thankit him, and did the harnes taise,
 And him inarmit in it lufilie.
 And eike this Fortoun de Amouris nobillie
 The ten Kniehtis rewairdit on this wyfe
 With ten fair harneissis gudlie to devysse,
 And ten steidis the best in that euntrie.
 When thay rewairdit war on this degrie,
 Thay thankit him, and tuike thair leave to wend.
 Clariodus did on his horfe ascend
 Whill it was neir aweht houris in the day,
 190 Fortoun de Amouris convoyit him away.
 The way depairtit of thir Knichtis than,
 Thay tuike thair leave at uther everilke man.
 Ane reale rob gave Sir Clariodus
 To Fortoun de Amouris quhen they paiftit thus.
 Ather to uther did heartlie them commend,
 Imbraieing uther, then fra uther wend.
 And the ten Knichtis on this fame maneir,
 Thair leave hes taine, [and] bamwart went ifeir.
 Clariodus, thus furth the way ryding,
 200 Ane meslinger come in his [gait] meitting
 From fair Meliades his lady deir,
 Whilk was hir awin varlat Bonvaleir.
 He was rejolit thairof greatunlie,
 And him refavit wounder tenderlie.
 When he had speirit all things as he lift,
 He tuike hir letteris and for joy than kift ;
 And bad his confingis ryd befor sumthing,
 Whill he advyfit war with hir wryting.
 “ My best belovit Knieht, and joy onlie,
 210 To \ge ow I me commend rycht heartfullie

Abone all uther eardlie creature.
 As I that lang thinkis abone measure,
 I have fent ȝow this secreit mesflinger
 And varlot of my chalmer Bonvaleir
 In proper perfoun with ȝow to speik, [and] fe
 If ȝe be blyth, that he may fay to me
 That he ȝow faw, and with ȝour self infpak,
 In mikill thing quhilk will me glaider make.
 Send wurd with him, my Knicht, I ȝow befeike,
 220 Of ȝour estait, and of ȝour weiffair eike.
 I bad Palexis me to ȝow commend,
 And eike with him ane writting wald have fend
 War not that alfe awtentike beine his faw
 As ony dyt in letter, as ȝe knaw.
 And for to schaw to ȝow of my estait,
 ȝe have my hart all haill ȝouris, God wait.
 ȝe left me with no weiffair nor plefance,
 Bot cruell fiching, sorrow and pennance:
 Quhairfor ane thousand tymes I ȝow pray,
 230 To visit me in all the heast ȝe may;
 For I may never be in joy perfite
 Whill I ȝow fe, the grund of my delyt.
 Whairfor, my Knicht and only paramour,
 I have ȝow fent ane ballat of amour,
 Befeiking ȝow that frefchlie for my faike
 ȝe hald it, feing I did it make.
 No more as now, bot God that is above
 Keip ȝow, my Knicht, quhom ower all I love."

When this ballet was red be Sir Clariodus,
 240 He was in heart richt bliffull and joyous ;
 He cloffit it, and laid it nixt his heart
 Under his arme, rejoysing him inwart ;

Syne haifilie efter his fellowis raid,
 Calling to him Bonvaleir, and thus faid,
 [Of England Court the tydingis tell. And than]
 Bonvaleir first at the King began,
 Syne at the Queine, and tauld that thay war glaid,
 And syne at fair Meliades the maide ;
 Syne of the Court he tauld of everie stait.

250 Be they had speirit all it waxit lait ;
 And faft thay raid quhile they com to the plane
 Quhair they saw stand ane fair horfe it alleane
 Neir by ane wode, quhair, throw the way richt,
 Thay raid full faft, for cunmand was the nicht ;
 Whair soune thay hard into the wode than by
 Ane cairfull voice, lyke to ane manis cry :
 Unto the voice they sped them haifly,
 Whair that they saw ane man bundin ly ;
 Twa litill duerffis was fitting him neir,
 260 Upon his breift thair sat ane lady cleir
 With cruell feir, and in hir hand ane knyfe,
 Saying, False trator, thow fall lose thy lyfe ;
 Heir fall thou sterve all only of my hand,
 Me may thou not remeid nor [ȝit] gainstand ;
 Fals theif, I fall me wraike on the full weill,
 This knyfis poynt thy dowbill heart fall feill,
 And eike I fall thy heart heir carve in two,
 Never me thow fall begyle nor ȝit no mo.
 Clariodus discendit from his horfe rycht thair,
 270 Seing this cruell Lady, fa merciles fair ;
 He faid, Madame, do never that felloun deid,
 Have rewth and pitie for ȝour womanheid ;
 With that he tuike hir in his armis two,
 And to hir spake fare monie wirdis mo.

This Lady, birning in hir craultie,
 With tygir mynd, and attrie face to fe,
 Full tyrranlie as feindlie coccatrice,
 Unto the Knicht swho answeirit on this wyfe,
 Pas on, and intromet gow not with me,
 280 For at gour counfall think I never to be,
 This trator falbe dead, or ellis I.
 He said, Have patience, O my fair Ladie,
 And that ge ar ane woman have in mynd,
 And never to ane man be so unkynde
 As him to slay, doing gour self defame,
 Bring everlasting reproch to gour name.
 Scho said, I winit ge had beine ane Knicht,
 And ge ane preacher ar becumin richt ;
 So furth and in sum paroch church go teache,
 290 For heir it helpis gow no thing to fleich,
 He falbe deid, or I myself fall slay.
 And quhen Clariodus hard hir so fay,
 For lawghter uneis nicht [himself] conteine,
 For scho was as ane lyoun alse keine ;
 And said, Madam, this tyme for my faike
 Ge falbe gratious ; I undertaike,
 Gif he hes faillit, he fall to gow amend,
 And his offence war to me maid kend.
 Sir, swho said, I am this Knichtis wyfe,
 300 Whom to I have beine trew in all my lyfe,
 And him I have taine in adulterie
 As falfe tratour with ane far worfe nor I ;
 For scho is nothing in comparisoun
 To me, nether in beawtie nor renoune ;
 Think ge not this ane thing impertinat,
 That this falfe tratour, theif and renegat,

Defaice fould [thus] ane lady as am I,
 Quhilk am mair nobill of genealogie
 Nor he, or ony of his parentille ?

310 Think þe not deid he hes deservit weill ?
 Clariodus began to smyll a litt,
 And said, Lady, in him lyis all the wyt ;
 Bot git for worship of gour womanheid,
 þe fall have mercie heir of his misdeid ;
 And in tyme cuming, if he to þow offend,
 Menteime I fall þour quarrel and defend.
 So with fair wordis and with humbilnes,
 Relaxit he this Knicht that bundin wes,
 And tham agreit, schortlie for to say,

320 Syne wald his leave have taine and went his way ;
 Bot thay him prayit that nicht to remaine
 With tham, quhilke he grantit, the futh to faine.
 This Knicht lape on behind Clariodus,
 Him gyding hanwart, myrrie and joyous
 That so had fkaipit betuix the bow and string.
 Clariodus said, How befell this thing,
 That þe war with this Lady bundin so ?
 The trewth, he said, I fall not hyd þow fro ;
 Scho fand me with ane woman in quyet,

330 And fecreit in hir heart it buire full great,
 And never fchew me ane luike of disfiance
 Whill in the wood it happinit thus perchance
 Me to unarme me, and ly doune to fleipe ;
 To quhilk fcho and ȝon dwerfis trike [gude] keip,
 And on me femblit fleiping as I lay,
 And band me thus, the futh if I þow say ;
 And had not beine þe come in this cace,
 I had bein deid, but mercie or but grace :

Whairfor not sufficis my wittis all,
 340 Gow for to thanke ; bot heir heicht I fall,
 Gowris to be for terme of all my lyfe,
 That hes me succurrit from my cruell wyfe.
 So raid thay furth unto the Knichts palace,
 Wher they recevit war with great solace ;
 Anone they soupit and maid ryght myrrie cheir,
 And syne to bedis went they all in feir.
 Clariodus lay in bed him alone,
 And quhen his cousingis fleiping war, anone
 He callit Bonvaleir, and did him fay,
 350 Go fetch $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ e me ane instrument to play
 Fra $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ one ladie ; furth went this Bonvaleir,
 Whilk hes him brocht ane herp with stringis feir ;
 Inke and paper he gart him bring also,
 And syne commandit him to bed to go,
 Saying, he had to do sum biflines.
 He passit furth quhen all men fleiping was,
 And enterit in ane luffie garth of flouris,
 And tuike his Ladyis ballet of amouris,
 And set it on ane note plesant and richt fweit ;
 360 And quhen it was all finifhit and compleit,
 He sang it with the harpe ryght myrrillie,
 To heir whilk was ane joyous melodie :
 When this was doun he begane to wryte,
 Unto his ladie as followis the indyt.
 “ LODSTAR of love, and lampe of lustieheid,
 Blosome of beautie, and rose of gudliheid,
 Illustar lillie, and leime of my delyt,
 To $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ow, the fairest flour of collour quhyt,
 I me commend ane hundredth thowfand syis,
 370 Whom in my daith my lyfe and comfort lyis ;

ȝow thanking ofter nor I can heir report,
 Of ȝour fresh ballat of plelance and comfort,
 Of ȝour tender wryting so winder fweit,
 Whilke for to heir rejofis all my spreit.

Amadure and Palexis baith ifeir
 Into the court I fend with Bonvaleir,
 And with no wicht I will discoverit be,
 My heartis Lady, whill that I ȝow fe :
 And speciallie, Madam, I ȝow requyre,

380 If ȝe will doe ocht for my defyre,
 The postrum of your garth ȝe gar uncloſe ;
 To be thair this nicht is my purpoſe,
 The tent hour withouttin ony dread,
 To speike at laſour with ȝour Ladyheid,
 Whom God in gud prosperitie conſerve,
 And in honour quhiddet I leif or fterve.”

When endit hade Clariodus this thing,
 To bed he ȝeid withoutin taryng.

At morne he hard ane meſe with gud intent ;
 390 Syn to the lord that awcht the paleice he went,
 And quyetlie thir wirdis faid him to,
 For fecreit materis that I have adoe,
 I wald ane chalmer of ȝow borrow heir,
 Whill that my biffines compleitit ware.
 The Lord anſweirit and faid, Not ane only,
 Bot all my chalmers, houſe and harberie,
 Or then I war wyld, wode, or out of mynd,
 Confiddering ȝe have beine to me fa kynd.
 He thankit him ; fyne to his chalmer went,
 400 Saying to thame, Loe this is my intent,
 To pas to Denmark I have maid ane vow,
 The caus quhairof I will not fchaw as now,

Perchance heirefter ȝe may have witting.
 ȝe two fall pas in Ingland to the King,
 And schaw to him that I am haill and feir,
 And of my jurnay on this maneir ;
 Me recommending on most humbill wyse,
 [And that full oft, to fair Meliades,]
 To hir, and eik unto the court ower all ;
 410 And quhen I may have lafour cum I fall.
 Heiring this taill, thir knichtis war full wo ;
 Bot, for his great displeasour dread they so,
 No thing they faid, bot ryght at his command
 They wald obey withouttin mair demand.
 Then efter callit he on Bonvaleir,
 Saying, Commend me to my Lady deir,
 And unto hir ȝe fay that in schort space,
 I thinke to se hir fair and gudlie face ;
 Geive hir this letter in ane taikining
 420 That I fair weill : and so, at thair departing,
 Fyfste florings of gold he gave him thair ;
 And then Bonvaleir tuike [his] leave to fair.
 His cousignis tuik thair leave with imbracing ;
 And in Palexis hand he did inthring
 Ane rich flour of luftie diamand,
 The quhilke bricht was and illuminand ;
 And him commandit in secreit wayes,
 That he fould geive it to Meliades.
 Bonvaleir and thir nobill Knichtis two
 430 Thair leave hes taine hamwart for to go ;
 Thir Knichtis two did on thair horse ascend,
 And Bonvaleir hamwart with them wend.
 Thir Knichtis, with this varlot Bonvaleir,
 In thair voyage so softlie can them stieir

Whill they com neir the cuntrie of Ingland.
 Bonvaleir, to thir Knightis inclynand,
 Said, I wald ryd before war it ȝ our will.
 Thir Knightis baith consentit him till.
 Bonvalier haiflit him on fike wyfe

440 That in schort tyme into the toune he hyis,
 As for that tyme quhair lugit was the King ;
 Anone also he changit his clothing,
 As he had not beine fra hame nor absent.
 Rycht soune unto Meliades he went,
 And fand hir in hir wairdrope quyethie,
 Playand on ane hearpe rycht mirrilie.
 And quhen scho of Bonvaleir had ane ficht,
 Greatlie rejoyfit was this Lady bricht,
 And haftilie scho speirit of his tyding.

450 And then Bonvaleir, on his kneis fitting,
 Said, Gud tyding I have to ȝ ow, Madame ;
 Clariodus the Knicht of mekle fame
 Commending him unto ȝ our Ladiheid,
 And bad me fay unto ȝ ow but dread
 That in schort tyme he sould ȝ our beawtie fee ;
 And heir ar letteris that he dere \mathfrak{ct} it me,
 And bad me to ȝ our Hienes them present.
 Scho them refavit than incontinent,
 And rede ; bot quhen scho had witting

460 Of all his tryfing and of his cuming,
 Thairfor scho tuike sic comfort and plesance,
 Scho thoclt hir heart for joy begouth to dance ;
 Then said to Bonvalier, I have feine
 ȝ our letteris, quhilk sum centenfis dois conteine,
 Within few dayis that Clariodus
 Salbe in this cuntrie heir with ws.

Bonvalier faid, Madame, fa traist \ge me,
 That he fall cum quhen he may readie be ;
 He me rewairdit fa michtilie,

470 And alse hes gevin me of gold fa larglie
 That I fall rich man be for ever moir,
 I \ge ow requyre that \ge him thank thairfore.
 I fall him thanke, fcho faid, at his cuming,
 For \ge e have donne \ge our pairet in everie thing ;
 Go furth and fetch me Romaryn alswith.
 At hir command fcho com with visage blyth,
 And faid, Madam, with me quhat war \ge our will ?
 Tydings, fcho faid, I have to tell \ge ow till ;
 The nobill and worthie Clariodus, my Knicht,

480 Salbe heir, God willing, with ws this nicht.
 Romaryn anfweirit and faid, God me fave,
 Thoſe beine the tydandis faineſt I wald have.
 This nicht he cumis, faid Meliades,
 At ten houris but dread on this wayis,
 In at the gardine poſtrum thinkis he
 All privilie to have his entrie ;
 Thairfoir I pray that \ge e the poſtrum keip,
 So that the tyme [appoynted] we not fleip.
 Romaryn faid, Madame, not this onlie,

490 To keip the poſtrum, bot I readilie
 Wald go for \ge ow to the warldis end,
 To bring to purpoſe quhilk \ge e two pretend :
 Considering that, bot villanie or blame,
 \ge our love to the increſſing of \ge our fame,
 My part I fall fa weill doe to \ge ow baith,
 That it fall never returne to \ge ow no ſkaith.
 Thir two as now thay ſpike no more
 For perſaving ; Meliades thairfore

Unto hir Ladies went hir to disport,

500 Fulfillit with all glaidnes and comfort.

To court then cuming was [Sir] Palexis

And Amadour, quhilk with all biffines

Went to the King, quha full tenderlie

Speirit for Clariodus, and quhy

That he not cam. And they have anfweir maid,

Saying, This is the caus of his abaid,

He man in Denmark pafs for caufis feir ;

Bot he will speid him hame founre to be heir :

He bad ws that we fould him recommend

510 Unto gour Grace, on quhome he will depend

Abone all princes aneth the firmament.

The nobill King in heart was not content

That cuming was not git Clariodus,

And baith his coufings com him fra thus.

He speirit at them uther tydings new ;

And they him plainlie all the maner schew

Of all the jufting and the tornament

Of Spaine, and how the prafe and loving went

All onlie with Clariodus and no mo.

520 And word be word they tauld him alfo,

How that he manfullie vinquist the lyoun,

And all the cace they tauld with lang fermoune ;

And how that with The Felloun but petie

He faught, and gart him leave his cructie.

And quhen the King this hard fa great ferlie,

He bliflit him and said, I trew futhlie,

That sic ane Knicht be not in all the warld as he,

Of strenth, and nurtur, and magnanimitie.

Thir wordis said the King, and bad them go

530 Unto the Queine, and to hir tell alfo

The ferlie thing, quhilk unto him they fchew ;
 To quhom they went anone, and did falew
 Hir nobilnes ; and fecho maid them to go
 With hir into ane garding to and fro
 Whill they had tauld hir all the circumstance,
 And word be word without dissimulance ;
 Quhilk was to hir ane thing maist mervellous,
 How that he micht acheive sic acts perrellous.
 Sir Amadour went walking with the Queine ;

540 And Sir Palexis with the Ladie scheine,
 And faid, Madame, Clariodus the Knicht,
 Oft him commendis unto gour bewtie bricht,
 And fendis to gow this flour of diament ;
 Saying, Within few dayis in verament
 He fall gow fe. Then faid Meliades,
 Sa lang from ws he bydis on fik wyfe,
 I trow the plefance of his awin cuntrie
 Sall gar this land with him forgottin be.
 Palexis for to blind fecho said this thing,

550 For he nocht wist of Bonvaleiris wryting.
 Palexis faid, For suith Madam I trow,
 He had rather die than forgottin gow ;
 Uneis fecho micht from lawghter then contine,
 And thocht that he knew litill them betwine ;
 Bot weill fecho did consider his lawtie,
 For to his Eame ane gud parte keipit he.
 Be this was faid, the night aprochit neir ;
 The King then dreslit him to his suppeir ;
 For joy that cuming war thir knichtis, he

560 Sent for the Queine and Ladies of beawtie,
 To soup with them that night into the hall.
 The coursis com with trumpits found royll ;

Ryght nobill cheir they had, with aboundance
 Of dilicat meits and wynis of plesance.
 When they had soupit and chirit nobillie,
 And estir supper dansit mirrilie
 With joyous play anone and gud disport,
 The Queine unto hir chalmer went at schort,
 And with hir went Meliades the bricht,
 570 Wha ay thocht on the cuming of hir Knicht.
 And quhen it did aproch neir the hour,
 Scho said unto the Ladyis of hir boure
 That scho was evill dispolit, and wald ly
 Into hir wairdrop that nicht quyetlie.
 Hir Ladyis hir convoyit to the doure,
 Quhilk Romaryn clofis estir hir fare.
 This Lady langer thocht this nicht perfay
 Nor scho befor had thocht ane moneth day ;
 Whairfor scho gart Romareine go full oft
 580 To hir postrum and set hir paiffis soft,
 That naineould hir heir. So, oft scho paft
 Whill that scho fand him standing at the laft ;
 Then scho undid the port full billilie,
 And fyn kneillit to him full humbillie,
 Sayand, My Lord, ge ar full welcum heir.
 He said, Grand mercie ! with ane knichtlie cheir ;
 Bot he wald not hir kiss quhill he had feine
 His awin Lady, quhilk he avowit beine.
 When scho the gret had clofis fikerlie
 590 They com togidder befor this young Ladie.
 When he hir saw he sat doun on his kne,
 Bot ane long tyme ane word not [say] micht he,
 Nor gyt this Lady, for ower great comforting ;
 Full war thair hearts of bliffull rejoising ;

Ouercum thay was with love in everie syd,
 Whilk in thair breiftis was so multiplied
 That they abaifit lang war in this wyfe.
 And unto him first spake Meliades,
 Welcum my Knicht, welcum my sufficence,
 600 Welcum my warldis joy and haill plesance,
 Welcum my heartis love, Clariodus,
 Whais lang absence hes beine to me noyous.
 Then answeirit he and said full courtefflie,
 My heartis Ladie and my joy onlie,
 How have \ge fairne sen our last depairting ?
 Now fair I weill, quod scho, in everie thing,
 Sen \ge ar cum, the caus of my weilfair.
 With that scho strenthit him in hir armis thair,
 And he also did hir softlie imbrace,
 610 And kiflit uther oft into that place.
 This Knycht then besyd hir doun scho fat
 Upon ane cufchoun of rich velvat.
 Speikand syne of divers materis of plesance
 Belonging unto loves observance,
 My paramour, said fair Meliades,
 To me it is reveallit in secreit wyfe,
 That \ge sould have beine wadit into Spaine ;
 This jelusie did hote in me remaine ;
 For ever, great love as it dois oft befall,
 620 Hot jelusie ower love does dwell at all.
 Clariodus said, Madam, be not adred,
 Quhen that the King of Bethingham fall \ge ow wed.
 The King of Spainis sifter fall me have,
 And that falbe ryght suith, fa God me fave.
 And suith it was, of Bethingam the King
 And hir freindis had spokin of hir wadding ;

Quhairfor scho leuch, and said, *ȝe* know *ȝour* fell,
 All is not trew that everie man dois tell.
 Amongis them thus mirrilie they sporte,
 630 They thocht the night to tham was all to schort.
 Clariodus said, I have ane interpryfe
 To do in armis, quhairfor *ȝe* mon devyfe
 What culour I fall weir ; for if that I
 Be into reid, then fall I verily
 Be knowin to all the court in everie steid,
 For wait *ȝe* weill that long I wore the reid.
 Then said Meliades in this maneir,
 Now it is Mayis moneth fair and cleir ;
 Wharfor, according to the seafoun scheine,
 640 Convenient war that *ȝe* fould weir the greine.
 Clariodus hir thankit courteffie
 Of hir culour, and said, Madame, glaidlie
 At *ȝour* command that culour I fall use
 For faike of *ȝow*, and no man to refuse
 In tournament, in peace, nor *ȝit* in weir,
 Alse long as I *ȝour* gudlie culour beir.
 Ane chaine of gold scho gave him lang and fmall,
 With love knotis that caffin war ower all ;
 And bad that he fould weir it for hir faike
 650 Abone his geir ; quhilk he did wnedertake.
 And he hir gave ane luflie brallet,
 All wrocht with gold and pretious stonis fet ;
 And for his faike he prayit hir to weir it.
 The day aprocht, quhairof they war effeirit.
 Romaryn said, It wilbe day alfweith,
 And thairof war thir lovers nothing blyth ;
 They tuike thair leave at uthers imbracing,
 With pitious wirdis, and with kiffing,

With forrowfull fighing, and with tirie face ;
 660 Into thair myndis thinking oft, Alleace,
 That ever thay shuld depaert so fuddantlie ;
 Assuring uthers with aithes sikerlie
 Trewth and gude love for ever more to lefft.
 Depairting syne with heartis fore opprest,
 To the postrum went Clariodus,
 With ficheis sad and heart dolorus ;
 Whom convoyit the Lady Romaryn,
 And at the postrum did to him inclyne ;
 Whom at he tuike his leave richt courtefflie,
 670 And thankit hir baith oft and heartfullie
 Of all hir secreit service donne before,
 Sayand, He shuld think on it evermore.
 Then sticket fcho the postrum privilie,
 And to hir Ladie com up haiftilie,
 Whair fcho hir fand makand ane pitious mone,
 Hir gudlie face with tearis all wobegone
 For sorrow of the fuddane depairting
 Of him quhom that fcho lovit ower all thing.
 Bot Romaryn did confort hir so fast
 680 Whill to hir bed fcho bounit at the laft,
 Whair fcho lay waiking, and thinking on her knicht
 Whill Phebus schynit in her chalmer bricht ;
 And then fcho raife and hir arrayit anone,
 And with hir Ladies to the Queine is gone.
 Clariodus, or that [the] fun up schyne,
 Was at the forsaide knichtis place againe.
 The portar trowit, for he was ane valiand knicht,
 He had beine feikand eventures all nicht.
 To bed he went, and sleipit quhile it was day ;
 690 And syne he raife and soune did him aray.

When he to God had prayit devotlie,
 And dynit eik, he faid full courteflie
 Unto the Lord, Len me ane servitour
 That can ane erand doe with bissie cure.
 The Lord him grantit hes rycht heartfully,
 And callit on ane fervand neir him by,
 And him betaucht, saying, *ȝe* fall refave
 This ȝour man quhilk I in dewtie have ;
 For he is fecreit, wyse and trew in all,
 700 Whairfoir to name we Diligence him call ;
 He fall ȝour varlot be withoutin dreid,
 If ȝe him lift, for tearme of lyfe pofeid.
 Clariodus him thankit reverentlie ;
 This Diligence he hes fent haiftilie
 For diverfe things that was convenient
 For him to weir into [the] tornament ;
 And bad him alse ane browderer him bring,
 And eike ane armurar that was cuning,
 And diverfe silkis baith greine and uther hew.
 710 This Diligence full weill the waris knew ;
 He tuike the money, and went on his erand ;
 And everilk thing, rycht as he did command,
 He furnischt hes, and bocht into schort space ;
 And brocht with him the workmen to the place
 Whair that he bade. And then Clariodus
 Went to the Lord againe, and faid him thus,
 Sir, ane maistre of work mon ȝe be ;
 Heirefterwart as ȝe wald, Sir, charge me ;
 Gar put ȝon workmen in sum quyet hous,
 720 And fe that they be verie laborus
 Whill thay have maid ane harnes fair and fure ;
 And bid that they with greine fatine it cure,

Of Tutabone weill all broderit with the floure,
 For gonder cumin is ane good broderour ;
 My uther harnes they may as patroun tiske,
 And thay thairby the meitter fall it make.
 The Knight all undertuike with diligence ;
 Bot he himself wald not cum in prefence
 Of tham that maid his harnes, dread that thay

730 Sould him reveale againe in the tornay.

He gart them alse make gounis of satine greine,
 For men and wemen, gudlie for to feine ;
 The varlots of the place he gart aray
 Of satine greine all of ane leveray,
 Imbrowderit with the flour of Tutabon ;
 So that he left not unrewardit one.
 Clariodus sex virginis fair to feine
 Gart all be clothit into satine greine ;
 The ȝoungeſt he gart aray hir lufſilie

740 With gold and ftonis winder pleſandlie ;
 Abone hir treflit hair of delyte
 Was fet ane chaplet all of pearlis quhyt.
 And sex ſquyeris he hes gart cleath alſo
 In greine satine, with this Madin to go
 Unto the King. He teichit hir parqueir
 What ſcho ſould fay, as eſter ȝe fall heir.
 This Madine richt to Windifchore is went,
 Wher that the King as than was reſident,
 And lichtit at the palice ȝet adoune,

750 Whair monie men rycht gudlie of renoune.

Four awfull bearis was to the King preſent,
 [With quhilk his Knichts ſould fight incontinent.]
 Great preafe of pepill com them to behold.
 This damifell, bot of fyſtine geiris old,

Went throw the preife whill scho com to the King,
 Whair kneillit doune this gudlie Madine benign ;
 And first scho helfit him and syne the Queine,
 And then Meliades the luftie ladie scheine ;
 Syne with he voice scho said before them all
 760 Thir wordis, that rehearfe to gow I fall :
 King Philipon, unto gour Excellence
 The Grein Knicht hes me fent with reverence ;
 The quhilk plainlie commandis me to say,
 Ane tornay set is for ane moneth day
 Be him, bot heir ane litill gow befyde ;
 Gif ony Knicht, that dois with gow abyde,
 Will him affay, he fall refavit be
 In iufting, for thoſe dayes thinkis he
 Them to affay, if thay will cum him till ;
 770 And he that is win fall be at the will
 Of him that ftraike him doun but let,
 To quhat priffoun he will him in fet.
 The Grein Knicht beiris the flour of Tutabon,
 Wha will affay let him cum on anone
 To joyous Mafon not far gow fro,
 Four myllis of ſpace it is and no mo,
 The Lord of it Sir Pennent hecht dreidles
 Of La Carere, ane knicht of worthines.
 When scho had ſaid thir wordis oppinlie,
 780 The King and all the court had great ferlie
 Of hir language, that scho, fa gouny of age,
 So nobillie compleitit had hir meffage.
 Among the rout great preafe was hir to ſe,
 So weill arayit, and of ſo great bewtie.
 The King ſaid, Lady, I have great joy to heir
 Gour ſpeache pronuncit with womanlie maneir ;

And for to feȝour bewtie maist bening,
 ȝour port, ȝour cheir, ȝour speach and gud having ;
 ȝow and ȝour gyding greatlie I command,
 790 And eike the Greine Knicht that ȝow heir fend.
 We ar to him beholdin in great maneir,
 That hes ws fend so gratiouſ ane meſſinger ;
 If that ȝe pleis, ane quhill ȝe fall abyd,
 Whill I ſpeik with thir Knichtis me beſyd ;
 Syn ȝe fall anſweir have and that anone.
 He with his Knichtis ar to counſall gone.
 Thay war content and blyth everie Knicht,
 Conſenting at thair power and thair micht
 To mak them redie to the turnament,
 800 Whairon accordit thay with ane conſent.
 Befor the King fat doune ane Knicht,
 Sir Broun de la Mere hardie and wicht,
 And alſkit thair that he the formoſt day,
 To juſt micht enter in the ſaid tornay.
 The King him grantit ; and fyne returnit ſweith
 Unto this Virgine ſo bening and blyth,
 Saying to the fair Madine, To the Greine Knicht fay,
 He falbe fervit all out ane moneth day
 At his deſyre, and thanke him hartfullie
 810 That hes ws chargit ſo honorabillie
 Unto ſo nobill ane a&t and fair diſport.
 Then he delyverit hes this Madine at ſchort ;
 At quhais paſſing into rememberance,
 Ane diamond he gave hir of pleſance ;
 The quhilke feho did refave with humbill cheir,
 And thankit him upon ane fair maneir.
 This luſtie Madine returning haifilie,
 Hir ſquyeris ryding luſtilie hir by,

Syn to Clariodus did hir dres,
 820 And tauld him the maner mair and les,
 How all the court had joy of hir cuming,
 And how scho was delyverit with the King,
 And how that hir beheld Meliades,
 Quhilk was the rose of everie lustines ;
 Abone mesour commanding the bewtie
 Of hir that was fo angill lyke to see ;
 And suith it was that ilk Meliades
 Beheld hir with all cure and bisnes,
 For weill scho wifft quhairfra scho was fend,
 830 The mair scho did unto the Madine attend.

Quhen scho had tauld him all the remanent,
 Clariodus unto Sir Pennent went,
 And faid, *ȝe* mon ane chalmer gar provide,
 That is of herberie mekill roume and wyde,
 And gar aray it luffilie and fair,
 Perchance in it sum ftrangers fall repair.
 When this was faid, Clariodus furth went,
 And twa paviliouns luffilie gart up:stent
 Of greine silk wrocht, and in ane large plaine,
 840 Ane flicht schot syndrie, the suith if I sould faine,
 With filkin roppis also of the famine hew ;
 Ane for him self, quhair, of the bricht gold new
 Inbrowderit was the flour of Tutabone ;
 For his companioun the uther was anone.
 Within thir twa was ordanit everie thing
 That langit unto tornay or juffing.
 Be all was put to poyn特 and dune at rycht
 The day was gone, and cuming was the nicht ;
 Clariodus his bodie did deveft,
 850 Syne to his bed he ȝeid, him for to rest.

The mirrie day displaying in the morrow,
 The glaid foulis, devoid of nichtis forrow,
 With sugarit nots making ane mirrie found
 Aganis bricht Phebus blyth ascentiou,
 Whilk with his asfour beamis of delyt
 Oppinit on bread the tender blomes quhyt,
 Doing the bloffumes breke in the spray,
 And everilk bank in grein dois he aray.
 Clariodus, the flour of Mars, his knichts
 860 Full luftilie into his weidis him dichts,
 With knichtlie cheir and curage leoneine,
 Thinking or Phebus in the waſt declyne,
 That he fould for his foverane Ladyis faike,
 With speir in hand, ane manlie counter make.
 When he ane meſs had hard, and tane difjune,
 He gart four gudlie fquyeris enter foune
 Into the Knichtis pailȝeon, and that anone
 Sould with him juſt ; to ſerve him thay ar gone ;
 Syne ordanit he two virginis that war cleir,
 870 By the reingeis to leid his awin courſeir ;
 The Ladie of the place his helme did beir,
 Hir following foure fresche virginis of effeir ;
 The Lord himſelf to ſerve him of his lance ;
 And all in greine arrayit for plefance ;
 His four fquyers upon the famine wyfe
 War all in greine, maift gudlie to devyſe.
 Then to his pailȝeoun went he ſpedilie,
 Inearmit at all poynjis full richlie,
 On his companioun thair abyding fill.
 880 He had with him baith trumpit and clarion chill,
 Garring await if they faw ony Knicht
 Cum from the Kingis corut enarnit bricht.

And be it was of the day houris ten,
 Againis the fune ane Knicht cumand thai ken,
 Lucent as lampe and leming in his weid,
 Withe lance in hand, upon ane fnaw quhyt steid ;
 Two knichtis him convoyit nobilly,
 And gud Sir Amadur raid him by,
 And uther fyve him for to serve at all ;
 890 He feinit feirce and strong as ony wall.
 When he aprochit neir the pailȝeoun,
 The four squyers with rycht bening fermoun
 Recevit him, and offerit him entrie,
 And prayit him to licht thair ; bot he
 Wald not licht doune, bot thankis to them ȝold.
 Anone quhen thus Clariodus can behold,
 Alse suift as falcoun he sprang upon his steid,
 As glorious angill schyning in his weid ;
 Fret full of stonis radious and licht,
 900 All browderit with gold depaintit full bricht,
 Out throw the greine gudlie to decerne,
 Whair ilk gilt mailȝe glemitt as ane sterne ;
 And for the Lady had his helme to beir,
 Ane falfe vilȝar for kening he did weir ;
 Hir ladies all, as ȝe have hard me say,
 Convoyit him furth all into greine aray.
 When that Sir Broun and his fellowis beheld
 The Greine Knicht cum fo nobillie to the feild,
 Unto his feiris he said that stude him by,
 910 ȝone is the knichtliest ficht aluterly,
 And the most gudlie that ever I saw with ey ;
 And fo said all the reft of his meinȝe.
 Clariodus threw on his helme anone,
 Sir Pennent with his speir is to him gone.

The trumpits blew and heraldis cryit all,
 The menstrellis playit with gle angellicall.
 Thir Knichts as two lampis leiming licht
 Of aureat splendor schynit as stonis bricht ;
 They smot thair steidis with spuris hardelie,

920 And ran togidder wonder feircelie,
 Whill that thair schaftis fsharp and squaire
 Flew all in peices abone them in the aire ;
 They tuike new speirris and ran togidder in feir,
 Full knichtlie com thir men of armis cleir,
 Girdand so fast as ane fireflochis glance,
 Sir Broun on Clariodus brake his lance,
 And he him hit againe with sic force
 That he ane speir lenth strake him fra his hors.
 The Greine Knicht thene returnit to his tent.

930 Four gudlie squyeris to Sir Broun ar went,
 Sayand, Sir Knicht, the cunand weill $\mathfrak{z}e$ knew.
 $\mathfrak{z}e$ mon to priffoun with on ane law.
 Sir Broun answeirit and said, Richt weill
 $\mathfrak{z}our$ willis I fall obey everilk deill.
 They led him to ane priffon of plesance,
 Be the Greine Knichtis nobill ordinance ;
 Quhilk chalmer was arrayit nobillie,
 With clothes of gold and arais full michtie.
 The squyeris said, $\mathfrak{z}e$ most heir abyd,
 940 Whill we unto our lord the Greine Knicht ryd.
 The squyeris com unto Clariodus,
 Quhilk was hame rydand mirrie and joyous
 Toward the place of Sir Pennent the Knicht ;
 And at the \mathfrak{z} ettis quhen he did alicht,
 They tauld to him all the maner cleir,
 How they demainit had the priffoneir.

Clariodus unto his chalmer went,
 And him unearmit thair incontinent ;
 Then hes he for Sir Pennent sent belyve,
 950 Sayand, Sir Knicht, ge pas and eike \textgreek our wyfe,
 And take with \textgreek ow the sex virginis in hy,
 With other squieris in \textgreek our companie,
 And with Sir Broun ge soupe and make \textgreek ow blyth.
 Sir Pennent faid, It falbe donne alsueith.
 The Knicht furth went as he commandit was,
 With all the forfaidis ladyes more and les,
 And gart bring furth with them ches and tabill,
 And instrumentis that war dele \textat tabill,
 With herp, and lute, and instruments for to play ;
 960 And in this chalmer, put in gud aray,
 They enterit foune, and faid on this maneir,
 Sir, the Greine Knicht hes sent us to \textgreek ow heir,
 To do \textgreek ow plesance and hold \textgreek ow companie.
 Sir Broun answeirit and faid, I traist gif I
 Have no worfe prissoun nor this I fall not pleine ;
 And so to tell the trewth and not to feine,
 The fairest man of armis and the best
 Is the Greine Knicht, and the feimliest
 That leives now, I trow, under the fone,
 970 He feimis nocht lichtlie to be wone.
 Sir Pennant faid, And he is thair withall,
 The gentilest and the most liberall
 That ever I knew in the dayis of my lyfe,
 None lawlier in the world is borne of wyfe.
 When they had soupit and fairne rycht reallie,
 Sir Pennent tuike his leive rycht humbillie,
 And left with him four squieris that war wyfe,
 In all his deidis to doe him service.

When cumin was to court Sir Amadoure,
 980 To heir his tydingis the King had great langour,
 And bad him schaw as he had hard and feine ;
 And he him tauld the veritie all cleine,
 Richt as it was, diffimuleng in no thing ;
 Of quhilk rehearse great mervell had the King,
 To Amadur saying, halfe as it war in play,
 Be of gude curage, the morne \ge mon assay.
 Amadur said, Avail quhat may avail,
 However it be, the game I fall affaill.
 The nicht paslit, the morrow com alsuith.

990 Sir Amadur, sa fone as day could kyth,
 Inarmit him and in the close discendit,
 And fand awcht squieris that on him dependit,
 With Sir Palexis and uther knichtis two.
 Sueith at the King he tuike his leave to go,
 And raid furth to the place of justing.
 When the Greine Knicht had of him perfaving,
 He come furth cleir enarmit under scheild,
 Convoyit with his Ladyis in the feild ;
 Whom on Palexis had great joy to behold,
 1000 And said, My brother Amadur, be bold,
 For \ge ow befor \ge e have alse fair ane Knicht
 As ever was cled in helme or birnie bricht.

When thay war redie on ather syd,
 Full manlie can thai to uther ryd ;
 They smot thair fleidis with spurris haifilie,
 And ran togidder wounder ferselie,
 That baith thair speiris abone tñem flew asunder,
 And baith thair fleidis did bakward founder ;
 Thair squieris did them serve with speiris new,
 1010 And thay anone raid utheris to perlew,

Whill all to frusshit thair lanfis in the feild,
That all men mervellit that about beheld.

Palexis faid, Gif that Clariodus
War in the land, quhilk is unkend to us,
I wald say furlie the Greine Knicht war he,
He is so lyke to him in all degree.

They ran at uther fa withoutin ho,
Whill sevin speiris brokine war in two.

Weill knew Clariodus, be his valoure,

1020 He was his coufing, nobill Amadure,
And blyth [he] was that he into him fand
Sic strenth, and micht, and deidis valiand.
[Clariodus then tuike the auchten speir]
Both great and strong, and, in ane knichtlie feir,
He drave at him with sik ane feirfull micht,
All to the eard he drave baith horse and Knicht
With fike ane force, that all that was about
Wint that he had beine dead withoutin doubt.
The Greine Knicht raid richt unto his tent.

1030 The squyeris to Sir Amadur ar went,
And speirit if he was hurt, and he faid, Nay,
Bot he ane littil frusshit was perfay.
Thus Amadur [eik] was to prissoune led,
Whairof Sir Broun was wounder blyth and glaid,
And faid, Welcum, [maist] gentill Amadur,
That sik compaslioun hes onȝour nichbour,
That ȝe vouchsafe to cum and visit me.
Then, smyling, faid Sir Amadur, Pardie
ȝe neid me not to thanke so greatumly,
1040 For ȝow to visit aganis my will com I ;
I ryd heir that we tak no grevance,
For of this justing cum the uterance ;

I traist that we fall get mo companie,
Or then I am diffavit verilie.

Clariodus [did] pafs to his ludging,
And him unarmit but tarying,
And bad Sir Pennent tak his Ladie bricht,
With all hir madinis, and go unto the Knicht,
And make him cheir and companie weill more
1050 Nor to the uther Knicht was donne before.

And they so did with all thair cure and micht,
He wantit nocht perteinit to ane knicht.

Palexis past and schew unto the King
As ge have hard, and feinget in no thing.
The King studiit, and had great ferlie
Of the Greine Knicht, and of his chevalrie.
Thus quhen that Amadour was ftrikin doun,
That was ay praisit of sic renoune,
Abaisit was this nobill King, and faid

1060 Unto Palexis, Zon grein Knicht fall degraid
Our Knichtis all, bot ge remeid us fynd ;
Whairfor ge fall no langer duell behind,
For ay the mair [that we thus] vinquist be,
The mair degraidis it our honestie ;
Ge ar our comfort nixt Clariodus,
Whilk absent is in this great neid from us.
Sir, faid the nobill and worthie Palexis,
I fall againis the Grein Knicht me adres,
Although he war ane infernall creatour

1070 I dar my bodie againis him aventour
Whidder that fortoun be my freind or fa,
Thair fall no dreidour bandis me him fra ;
Although he fstraik me doun I have no schame,
For Knichtis that ar alse worthie of name

Befor his speir poynt hes lyne full law,
What fault war it thocht with my feiris I faw.

At morne as Phebus markit up his face,
Palexis did his harneis on him brace,
And him enarmit furelie clofe and joynt.

1080 When that he was all readie and at poynt,
With him Sir Gilȝeam de la Forrest raid,
Unto the feild he dreslit but abaid ;
Richard de Maianis, with uther squyeris mo ;
Thus all on front unto the feild thay go.
And quhen he com unto the firſt pailȝeoun,
The foure squyers to meit him maid tham boune,
And him refavit wonder thankfullie,
And treitit him richt fair honorabillie.

He thankit them, and wald not with them licht,
1090 Bot hovit ſtill abyding the Greine Knicht.

Sounē this was tauld unto Clariodus,
Quhilk [glad] was of his couſing cumand thus ;
For weill he knew that he was Palexis,
Ane Knicht full great of fame and worthines,
Brother unto his couſing Amadur,
That valiant was for to manteine ane ſtour,
And was in armis his awin fellow deir,
Whom he ever lovit weill in all maneir ;
And he againe him lovit over all thing,

1100 Thocht then he had of him no knowledging.
The Greine Knicht affendit on his ſteid,
Bricht as Apollo, ſchyning in his weid.
His Lady him convoyit on ane ſpace,
Upon his heid he did his bricht helme lace.
The Knicht, Sir Pennent, raucht to him a speir,
He ſteirit his courſour with ane knichtlie feir.

Gylȝeam de la Forreft, and Richard de Maianis,
 When they beheld his knichtlie governance,
 Thay faid anone to nobill Palexis,

1110 To doe thy devore with courage thé adrefe,
 For of this wyde wold aluterlie,
 ȝonder rydis the flour of chevalrie ;
 And whofo lift to se ane gudlie ficht,
 Let him cum furth and luike upon ȝou Knicht.
 Sir Palexis, that ever was gud at neid,
 Delyverlie he lansit furth his fleid ;
 Nocht better forge could Deame Natur,
 For he was feimlie of corpis and flatur,
 Lyk to his eame the gud Clariodus.

1120 Thir two aprochit to uther thus,
 Up gois the weirlyke found of clarious,
 Togidder gois thir michtie championis
 With speir set all sadlie into the reift ;
 With manlie heartis baith fordward they preifl,
 And large alfe fast as spuris could them speid,
 And they have met withouttin aw or dreid.
 Thair speiris flew in peices in the aire,
 Whill throw the reard the cludis can all to rare,
 As it had beine ane crake of thunder fell,

1130 The castell wall redoundit with the ȝell ;
 Baith hurlit bakward thair fleidis with a grane,
 Whill that the noyse dinlit baith aird and staine.
 The rumour raise throw all the feild about,
 Of the two Knichtis haveing mikill doubt
 That thay sould have fruschet throw the fleill
 With the ilke dasch ; bot thay recoverit weill :
 Also of new two speiris have they hint,
 And ran togidder as fierce fyre and flynt

Whill that the trinschouns ower thair heidis geid,
 1140 And fyr out followit alse reid as ony gleid ;
 They refit never quhile they awcht speiris brake,
 So them betwine thair was ay rap for rap :
 As feare as dragouns wood and violent
 Thair course had fetchit from the firmament,
 And breist for breist had met with all thair mane,
 Whyll with thair fetheris coverit was the plaine ;
 So frawit was the feild thir Knichtis under
 Of fettering schafts, and trinschouns broke in funder,
 That folkis all winderit that about them hovit,
 1150 That they nocht go from thair steidis behovit.
 With the last counter thay maid that day,
 Than to himself can Palexis say,
 Thow art no man, for be thy force I feill,
 Thou art ane feind forgit into fteill ;
 For never more, sen I could sit on horſe,
 Was I so machit with no manis force.
 The famine thing thocht Clariodus,
 And with ane mynd ferce and curagious
 Ane speir he gripit winder great and wicht,
 1160 And with sic force he ran upon the Knicht,
 He drove him and his hors doun togidder,
 If they wer dead or not, no man could tell quhidder,
 To grund thay rufchit with sic ane vehemence,
 All throw his michtie straike and violence ;
 Bot he, throw Godis grace, full weill eschewit ;
 His nobill fquyeris him haistilie relevit.
 Upon the hand he hurt was a lyt,
 Of quhilk but dread he rekit not ane myt.
 Clariodus returnit to his tent.
 1170 Foure of his fquyeris unto Palexis went,

And did with him as with the uther two,
 Quhilk full glaidlie schup with them to go.
 Sir Amadur had joy and great blythnes,
 Quhen that he saw his brother Palexis ;
 Sir Broun was glaid also of his cuming,
 And then alswith they fell in commoning
 Of the Greine Knicht, and of his [great] valour,
 His prafe, bewtie, his face, and his figoure.
 Sir Pennent com as thay war speiking thus,

1180 Be the cunning of Sir Clariodus ;
 With him he brocht his Lady bricht and scheine,
 With all the virginis frechlie cled in greine,
 Harping, singing, and making melodie,
 With joyous sound of hevinlie menstrellie.

Unto Palexis he maid feift far more
 Nor he did to the uther twa before.
 This Ladie, quhilke was ane leich wonder gud,
 Hes stemit of Palexis hand the blude,
 And maid it to be haill in litill space,

1190 As be the Greine Knicht scho commandit was ;
 The quhilke [fain] wald have feine [Sir] Palexis,
 And his fellowis, to doe them glaidnes,
 Bot for discovering he wald not wend
 Whill that his enterpryfe was at ane end.
 The prifsoneris remainis into firmance,
 They feill no thing of sorrow nor penance.
 Of Palexis went hame the companie,
 And did the maneir plainlie fertifie
 Of all the justing word be word ;
 1200 Whairof the guid King thocht bot litill bouri,
 That prifsoneris his Knichts war fo caught
 Be sic ane stranger to quhom he nothing awcht.

When he had hard that Palexis and his hors
 War baith to grund [thus] strikin with his force,
 He ferliet greatlie, so did the court all haill,
 Of the Greine Knicht and of his [great] avail,
 Saying, Gif that Clariodus in feild
 And he alse [came] enarmit under scheild,
 The two best Knichtis in the warld war met.

1210 The King said, Sir Gilȝeam, do ȝour debt,
 With him the morne gour strenth ge mone affay.
 Then can Gylȝeam de la Forreſt say,
 Full littil or nocht my strenth it may avail
 Againis his micht, quhen Knichtis did affaill
 Stronger nor I, and nobiller [of] renoune,
 And faillit not for to be strikin doun ;
 Bot as my fellowis ȝit I fall affay,
 And fall not fail to do the best I may.
 Be he had answeirit thus it waxit lait,

1220 And unto bedis went hé and law eftait.
 Gilȝeam de la Forreſt raise up with the day,
 And at the King tuike leave and went away,
 And with his squyeris raid to Mafon le Joyous ;
 Whom foune persavit Sir Clariodus,
 Quhilke smartlie hes donne af his falfe viſage,
 And threw on him his helmet with curage,
 And with his michtie speir into his hand
 He met Sir Gilȝeam fairlie on the land,
 And straike him from [his] horſe without delay ;

1230 And syne unto his pailȝeoun went his way :
 To prifoun was he taine, and that anone ;
 His fellowis hamwart to the King ar gone,
 And tauld how Gilȝeam foune was strikin doun,
 Richt as ane bairne full febill of perfoun.

The court greatlie mervellit of this thing,
 Of the Greine Knicht was all thair comoning ;
 So to and fro thay spake quhile it was nicht,
 And then anone to bed went everilk knicht.

Richard de Maianis nixt did him perfew,

1240 And nixt him Sir Theman de la Hew,
 Syn ftraike he dounre Sir Triframe de Beaufort,
 And efter him Sir Clarius de la Port,
 Syne vinquist he Sir Cardron de la Conge,
 And efter him Sir Leoport de la Gonȝe ;
 So furth induring quhile did ane moneth left,
 He counterit with ane Knicht ay of the best
 Whill threttie Knichtis he had ftrikin doun
 Of tham that war in court of best renonne.

On this ilk moneth in the letter day,

1250 The King inquirit of ane fquyer or tway,
 How the last Knight did him impartie.
 The Knight of Eftur lichtit fuddanlie,
 And did affend into the hall anone ;
 Unto the King full glaiddie is he gone.
 The King refavit him with great blythnes,
 And so did all the lordis baith mair and les ;
 The Queine and all the ladies did him kis,
 And him refavit [alfe] with mikill blife,
 As he quho for the commoun profite haill
 1260 Exerceisand justice had taine great travell.

The King him tauld, with everie circumstance,
 Of the Greine Knight the rule and governance ;
 And all the maner, as ȝe heard before,
 How on the morne he foulde just and no more.
 And quhan the Earle hard of this tyding,
 How on the morne that it foulde taise ending,

So lawlie he inclynit to the King,
 And besought him atoure all uther thing
 That he wald releive him of his regall micht,
 1270 Upon the morne to fight with the Greine Knight.
 The King was laith to grant him his aſking,
 For he the realme had haill in his governing,
 And thocht, if [that he] had beine ftrikin doun
 That nixt himself was greatest of renowne,
 It had to his realme dishonour more
 Nor all the reſt that vinquift war before :
 Bot this he him besought fo earniſthlie,
 That be na maner he could him it deny ;
 Bot grantit him, and faid, If þe will fo,
 1280 My ſelf with þow in compagnie fall go,
 [The Quein, and alſe the fair Meliades,]
 With all my houſe ; fa help us Godis grace
 That we may vinquife upon the letter day.
 His houſhald all commandit he that thay
 Sould redie make the morne with him to [go]
 To Joyous Mason a litill ſpace them fro.
 Now reſt I will to ſpeike more of the King
 Whill I ſay of Clariodus ſum thing.
 Clariodus hes gart ane varlot go
 1290 To Windieschor, to fetch him ſpeiris mo.
 This varlot hard rehearſing in the toun,
 How that the King at morne foulde make him boune
 To ſe the juſting upon the letter day ;
 Whairfor he ſped him hanne but mair delay.
 And quhen he com before Clariodus,
 He prefentit him the ſpeiris, faying thus,
 My Lord, I hard rehearſing in the toun,
 The nobill King, with monie bauld barroun,

Sall cum the morne the jufing for to sie,
 1300 In all his hee triumph and royaltie ;
 The lustie Queine, and eike hir dochter fair,
 With monie aне seamlie ladie wilbe thair ;
 Ane Lord is cum unto the court this night,
 He feimes baith to be wyfe and wicht,
 The morne quhilk hes taine the jufing on hand,
 The governour they call him of Ingland ;
 The King himself he schaipis him to convoy
 With great triumph of plesance and of joy.
 I saw the Queine furth at aне windo ly,
 1310 With monie aне lady and damosell hir by.
 And thair I saw the fair Meliades,
 The tender blome of gouth and lustines,
 Difteingeand the rest about with hir bewtie ;
 As the day star full of benignitie
 Surmuntis everie star situat
 In the illuminis hevinis stellat
 Scho is the lodstar full of lustines,
 Of womanheid baith ladie and maistres :
 My Lord, I trow in trewth had \ge hir feine,
 1320 That scho schould greatlie [by \ge ow] praisit beine.
 When of this tyding hard Clariodus,
 In breift he was wonder glaid and joyous,
 That uneis for glaidnes he micht conteine,
 Remembering on Meliades the scheine,
 Quhilk was of bewtie the verie flour and rose ;
 Hir cuming fo greatlie did him rejoise,
 Within his breift his heart dancit aloft,
 Of his fair fortoun thanking God full oft.
 Unto the varlot for his gud tydings,
 1330 He gart be gevin fortie French florings ;

Syne gart he fetch the gud Lord of that place,
 And of this thing he tauld him all the cace ;
 Commanding him anone to caus be maid,
 For sight of Lordis, skaffaldis heich and braid
 On ather half, quhen the justing fould be,
 Hecher and lower efter thair degree
 Of nobillis and barrouns on tham fould stand ;
 And efter that to cover them, fo ordand,
 With leves greine, and flouris reid and quheit,
 1340 And bricht main blosomis bluming with delyt,
 That na tre falbe feine for leif and floure ;
 Ouer spreid with Mayis carpits of verdoure.
 He ordanit eike two skaffaldis to be maid
 [In reall flait, and all with purpour claid,]
 And syne arayit with filkis thair abone
 And claih of gold, as michtie Mars his throne ;
 The ane he ordanit for the Kings Majestie,
 Ane uther for the Queinis royaltie
 And for hir dochter Meliades the bricht.
 1350 He ordanit eike ane fair hall fould be dicht
 Of turnour warke, owerclad with leves greine,
 And brightest blosomis that on bewes beine ;
 And bad tham thair all neceffaris intake,
 Heir ane triumphand banquet for to make.
 Sir Pennent said, My Lord, goe gow repose,
 And I anone fall follow gour purpofe.
 This forfaid Knicht gart search all the contrie,
 And fetchit thair all workmen that war flee,
 Wrichtis, and maifters of geometrie,
 1360 And maift practitioneris of theotrie,
 Carvors, painters, and subtillest devysers,
 To make the liftis to the interprisers,

Quha in that land of cunning was or pryse,
 Or had ane curious mynd or devyse.
 Name bot it was in fortrefe or in touris,
 Or in the hall was depaintit lustie flouris,
 Or in the hinging of the tapestrie,
 Or in the liftis buildit royallie,
 Was never hard, of so schort provisioun,

1370 So curious wark in no regioun.

Clariodus went to [his] bed to fleipe,
 Bot of his Ladie ever in mynd tuke keipe,
 Now braiding in his dreime for joy,
 And now escarting for langour and for noy ;
 Now flumbering soft, now braid awaiking,
 Now ficing deip, [and] now for joy finging.
 How oft in breiftis flitis joy and blis,
 As weill \ge e know that lovers beine I wife,
 Of thame that loves servandis beine alway.

1380 Into his bed now musing as he lay,
 He thocht if that his Father come in field
 Againeft him in armes under scheild,
 Then that he wald aluterlie forbeir,
 And not tuich his bodie with ane speir ;
 Bot onlie that he wald his helme unlace,
 And geild him to his Father with bair faice :
 For certanlie my Author tellis me thus,
 That wounder wyse was this Clariodus,
 Richt juft and [gude and] mercifull in heart,

1390 Having all tyme the dreid of God inward ;
 Devote he was, and full of humbilnes,
 Rycht gentill, and repleit with nobilnes ;
 Quhilke maid him forwart ay in all maneir,
 And lovit with the peple far and neir.

Richt as the lustie candill matutine
 Begouth with cristall visage for to schyne,
 Befor Aurora, I meine the Morrow star,
 For bewtie that clippit is Lucifer,
 Throw persing licht of quhais beimis scheine,
 1400 Walknit for love the rewthfull Philomen,
 With angillis voice sngand befor the day ;
 Clariodus, quhilk langer fleipe no may,
 Furth walkit into his mantill and his farke
 For biffines, to gar men heast his warke,
 Quhilk all that nicht had not fleipit with ey,
 Bot biffie war in labour eydentalie ;
 Craftis men haifit thair wark perfay,
 The Knicht Sir Pennent stading thame by,
 Devising thingis maist expedient
 1410 For honour of his Lord armipotent.
 Quhen that the worthie, wicht Clariodus
 About the lifts ane quhyle had passit thus,
 Seing that everie thing was donne aricht,
 Becaus he litill fleipit had that nicht,
 He went unto his chalmer and tuike rest
 Quhill that the prince of planits him up dreft ;
 The goldin glemes of gleiting skyis cleir,
 Did hevinlie in the orient appeir ;
 Up raife bricht Phebus with the morrow soft,
 1420 Up raife the noife of birdis upon loft,
 Up raife the nobill King and eike the Queine,
 Up raife also Meliades the scheine,
 Up raife the court, and did them all adrefe
 In pretious weidis of great lustines.
 The Queine did hir aray full richlie,
 And hir atyrit full pretioufie ;

And eike the lustie madin Meliades
 Into hir heart could na mair joy devile
 Nor seho had for to go se the jufting,

1430 To se him that seho did love abone all thing.
 Quhen of this paßage seho was full assurit,
 With pretious stonis, and rich pearle and purit,
 Scho did hir fresche and luſtilie atyre ;
 Hir schyning hair as [the] bricht gold wyer
 Hang schyning into gyltine traces cleir,
 With croun upon hir heid baith rich and deir
 Set full of roobies and fapheiris blew ;
 Ane fairer princes in all the warld nane knew.
 The Count of Eſtur enarmit him rycht anone
 1440 At all pairtis, lave of his helme alone.

Quhen they hard mese and fyne difjunit,
 The filver trumpit fyne uptunit.
 For hors they cryit : the King lape on rycht thair,
 All coverit with his armis gud and fair :
 The Queine raid in ane chariot on height,
 All coverit with ane claiſt of gold full bricht
 Browderit with pretious stonis and pearlis quhyt,
 Quhilk to behold it was [ane] great delyte :
 Ilke in ane chariot raid this ȝoung Princes ;

1450 Of gold and stonis great was the riches
 About hir schynit freschlie as the day ;
 Two shaw quhyt palfrayes led hir furth the way,
 With harnisching more nor I can fchaw ;
 For gold and stonis micht no man hir knaw ;
 Threttie ladies followit hir weill beſeine,
 Alſe bricht of bewtie as the bloſſume scheine :
 The Count of Eſtur ascendit on his ſteid,
 With mony ane knicht [attyrit] in fresch weid,

Quhilk buire his speiris and with him abaid ;
 1460 With his bricht helme ane Lord before him raid.
 I let them pase ryght glad and soberly,
 And of the Greine Knicht [sum thing] speik will I.
 The Greine Knicht redie was into his tent.
 The Knicht Sir Pennent ay full bissie went,
 Putting all things in rule and governance,
 Great policie he maid at all plesance.
 When he thocht everie thing was at poynt,
 That from perfectioun thair was no difjoynt,
 For Lordis that war dwelling neir thame by
 1470 He sent for twelf, abuilȝeit reallie,
 For to resave the King with great honour,
 Quhilk neir aprochit with court of great valour.
 And or the King com neir the justling place,
 They nicht his minstrellis heir ane long space;
 Heich was the noyse, and curious was the found
 Of talbert, trumpit, and of clarion.
 Quhen that the King was cuming neir the feild,
 He hovit still, and attentivlie beheld
 The gudlie entres raifit upon heicht,
 1480 All browderit and depaintit with leves bricht,
 With gudlie flouris wounder fresche to be feime,
 The blumes quhyt, and the leves greine,
 The variant hewis without of purpour thine,
 With cloath of gold arayit all within,
 The curious kirlenis ryseing upon heicht
 Glittering and schyning fo winder fair and bricht.
 Great was the joy thay had on everie fyd,
 For to behold the Greine Knicht as he did ryd.
 The King said that it was the gudliest ficht,
 1490 That ever he saw in eard of ony wicht;

So faid the lordis and knichtis all in feir.
 The nobill Queime and all the ladies cleir
 Great joy had him to fe on fik ane wyfe ;
 And maist of all, the fair Meliades
 Rejosit was that Knicht for to behold,
 Whom to hir heart withoutin straik was gold ;
 To fe him ryd so knichtlie in his weid,
 That love hir fa streingheit withoutin dreid,
 That it ane feikness grew about hir heart,

1500 That fuddant start scho nicht it not escart
 Of Cupidis bow so big againis hir bent,
 From quhilk ane hundredth awfull dartis went
 Ilk efter uther, with woundis greine and new,
 Throw quhais floundis scho oft changit hew,
 Almaist hir passioun infufferabill,
 Amongs them also s echo is to fune abill ;
 And efter that s echo wald recover a stound,
 And with sic comfort and great joy abound,
 That uneis for glaidnes [scho] nicht conteine ;
 1510 And thus for love this lufty] Lady beine.

Quhen redie war thir nobill Knichtis two,
 The Kingis herald eryit, Let them go.
 Full haistilie than rowmit was the feild,
 And to thair meiting everie man beheld.
 The Count of Eftur com redie in his geir :
 And the Greine Knicht anone hes taine his speir ;
 Bot he his helme no way wald let lace,
 Whairof his felow grit mervell hes ;
 The caus quhairof ȝe fall wit efter founie.
 1520 Anone the trumpits blew a mirrie toune ;
 The Knichtis baith com to so wonder fair,
 That all men them commendit that war thair.

The Grein Knicht softlie did his courser steir ;
 Bot quhen he did aproch his Father neir,
 Alfweith his lance fourth of his reift he threw,
 And from his heid his helme he af drew,
 And to his Father he hes offerit his speir,
 Saying, with glaidsume visage and with faire,
 My Lord, I geild me to gow but straik,
 1530 So as ge lift of me gour conquise make.
 The Count of Eftur him beholding thus,
 And faw it was his sonne Clariodus,
 Also his speir to grund he caift him fro,
 And af hes hivit his helme or he wald ho,
 And in his armis heir he did him brace,
 And tenderlie him kifft in that place.
 Great wounder had the peple all about,
 Upon this thing had ferlie all the rout ;
 Bot quhen they wist it was Clariodus,
 1540 The clamour raife and noyse mervellous
 Amongis them, over all baith auld and ging,
 For, certes, they him lovit over all thing,
 And with ane clamour ryfing to the sky,
 Vive, Vive CLARIODUS, they cry.
 The Lordis lape from skaffald heir and thair,
 And maid him for to licht with freundlie fair;
 Bot they uneis in armes nicht him fang
 For preife of peple that about him thrang.
 The nobill King so glaid was this to feine,
 1550 For joy the teiris ran donne from his eine ;
 Glaid was the Queine, and all hir Ladies eik :
 Bot maift of all Meliades the meike,
 Intill hir eyis full plesand was the ficht
 Of him that was hir servand and hir Knicht,

Quhilk conqueift had hir honour and renoune
Over all uther Knichts but comparisoun.

What fall I of hir joyes to gow wryt?

I can not have hir gladnes put in dyte.

The King discendit from his skaffald thair;

1560 So did the Queine, and eik hir dochter fair.

Clariodus tham met full courteflie,

And on his kneis fat doun full reverentlie,

Helfing the King, quhom he tuike up alfweith
Up in his armes, and with his vifage blyth

Him kislit sweithie, and eik so did the Queine,

And fyne Meliades that Lady scheine.

Lordis and ladies did so about him thrift,

Him welcuming, that redlie he no wift

Whom to anfweir or to thank in thair;

1570 Bot ay inclynand with ane vifage fair.

Quhen knicht and lord, lady and baitcheleir

Had him refavit with ane frindlie cheir,

Richt courteflie the King he did befeike,

And fyne the Queine, and the young Ladie eik,

To pas and tham repole into the place;

Thay grantit him, and went furth with solace;

They enterit in the place, and fyne anone

In ane fair chalmer he maid them for to gone;

The Lord fyne of the place he gart him bring,

1580 And his aquentance thair maid with the King,

And with the Queine, and with Meliades.

When this was donne, he said upon this wyfe

Unto the King, Sir, moff it gow effeiris,

To go and loufe ȝon werie priffloneris;

To quhilk the King hes grantit with gud will,

The Count of Eftur he gart remaine thair stiil,

And eik with him his fone Clariodus,
 To make the Ladies mirrie and joyous.
 He enterit in the chalmer of plefance,
 1590 Whair that the prifsoners fould dre thair pennance.
 Thir nobill Knichtis quhen they saw the King,
 They war rejoſit into mikle thing ;
 Thay did inclyne and did him reverence,
 Richt as effeirit to his excellence.
 He speirit of thair faſſioun and thair cheir
 Sen the firſt tym thay enterit priffoneir ;
 And thay have tauld him all the circumstance
 Of all thair feiſting, and thair great plefance.
 The King beheld the chalmer then wiſlie ;
 1600 And feing it arayit fo richlie,
 Espying all thair playing inſtruments,
 Thair feiſting, and thair plefant abaitments,
 Thair dancing, ſinging, with ſound of minſtrellie,
 The King ſaid, ſe ar beholdin grittumlie
 To the Greine Knicht hes ȝow priffoned fo,
 ſe have felt mair of glaidnes nor of wo ;
 Syne them befor Clariodus he brocht,
 Saying to them, Know ſe the Greine Knicht ocht ?
 How lykis it ȝow ȝour taiker, ſchaw to us ?
 1610 And quhen they ſaw it was Clariodus,
 Mirrier Knights war never under the fone ;
 Thair men nicht fe ane game new begune,
 Thay did inclyne to him full courteſlie,
 And he imbracit tham full tenderlie ;
 He kifſit Amadur and alſo Pallexis,
 Quhilk was his couſings of fik nobilnes.
 The Knichts then deliverit war anone.
 The King then to the triumph hall is gone,



Quhilk browderit was [with] leives and with flours,
 1620 Richt lustie fair and plesant ower missours.
 The King commendit it rycht greattumlie,
 So did the Queine, and eik the ȝoung Ladie ;
 The Count of Eftur praisit it also.
 They wosche and to the denner fyne did go.
 To the tabill anone was fet the King,
 The Queine, and eik Meliades the ȝing ;
 At the fame burd sat the Earle of Eftur.
 The Merchellis of discretion and nurture
 Full biffilie went ben and but the hall ;
 1630 At uther buirdis that war collaterall
 They set the Lordis efter thair degrees,
 With potent barouns, knichtis, and ladies.
 And as the first cours com in rousand,
 The mirrie trumpits maid ane mirrie found ;
 Of clarions fchill, and uther minstrellie,
 I wift thair was ane hevinlie melodie ;
 The found out throw the silver mettel thrang,
 Whill all the grit hall throw the noyise rang.
 Thair monie diverfe course for to declair
 1640 Ane houris lenth fould occupie and mair,
 Quhilk neidis not for to be tauld all heire ;
 Great was the feift with hie triumph and cheir.
 When silence beine of windand minstrellie,
 And buird beine servit, by and by
 The huits beine sayit and the flings,
 The squyeris danfing alway in the fprings,
 The harpis beine sayit at the full
 To make hearts mirrie that war dull ;
 The guthtrone with triumph did record,
 1650 The cleare fynball with the mirriecord,

The dulcat playit alfo with portative
 Sad hevie myndis to make exultative ;
 The dulse, base fiddell, with the recordour
 Affayit war and set at ane miffoure ;
 Out of Irland ther was ane clerischeo.
 [The King begouth to lauch, the Quein alfo,]
 And then luich all, and maid grit game,
 He could not mirrie be that thair was drame ;
 For thair nocht wantit of all warldlie joy
 1660 That ever had fair Priamus of Troy.
 The mekill hall was servit far and neir
 Of rich wynis in goldin coupis cleir.
 And betwix courfis was ane padȝeane playit,
 Into play coats they curiouulie war arayit,
 By great inchanters and subtill magicianis.
 Sweit singing was of craftiest musicianis,
 And mirrie danfing of tender virginis quhyt,
 With plesant stories all of Homer's indyte ;
 And mirrie fabillis of Guido de Colune,
 1670 Eik was thair synis of padȝeanis playit dumbe.
 If I sould tell ȝow all the long proces,
 I sould ȝow irk be furfat of exces ;
 For beft is ane discretioun moderat,
 For everie thing aucht to be temperat.
 The Kingis heralds larglie cryit aloud,
 Of gold and filver, and of feimlie schroud,
 Gevin to them be Sir Clariodus,
 That was both wicht, wittie, and famous ;
 Quhilk all this quhyle was on his feit stading,
 1680 For he was maister carver to the King.
 Bot foune anone he paſſit af the hall,
 And tuike with him his prifſoneris all ;

Saying to them, My frindis treft and deire,
 ſe do me now the plefour I require,
 That ſe wald gounis weir in fuit with me.
 Thairto full glaidlie can [they] all agre.
 He gart furth bring to everie man a goune,
 That at the liftis he had strikin doun,
 Of claih of gold, hevinlie hewit greine,
 1690 Furrit with mertrix gudlie for to feine.
 Quhilk gouns he gart make for thame onlie,
 Of his great wifdome, and his courtasie.
 To Sir Pennent ane goune gave he alſo,
 [And he] himſelf that day wore ane of tho.
 With him thay dynit in the chalmer thair,
 Syne to the hall [thay] all togider fair,
 Quhair that the King fat [at] his denner fill.
 This luftie fort of Knichtis went him till,
 And thankit him of his great gentilnes,
 1700 To thame donne be his paſſing nobilnes.
 Of Sir Clariodus of great renoune
 Then faid the King with richt be ning fermoune
 Unto the Count of Eſtur ; Fair couſingne,
 I weinit our Knichts ſould thair ransoune bring,
 For to have gevin Clariodus ſour ſone ;
 Bot to gif them he hes firſt begune.
 The Count of Eſture [ansuerit] Per mon fay,
 The nobill Knichtis ſpeikis more largly
 Anents my fene I wait, nor he hes defervit ;
 1710 Ane greater guerdoun for to have thay fervit.
 Quhen this was donne, thay wosch and faid grace,
 Syne to the floure they went them to folace.
 On instruments menſtrells playit curiouſlie,
 Lords, knichts, and ladies danſit mirrilie.

Be this thair enterit into the hall
 The fex fair Virgins, lustie, quhite and small,
 That led the Greine Knight to the justing place ;
 As rose and lillie culour was thair face ;
 All cled in cloath of silver new and greine
 1720 Of plesant bewtie, angellyk to feine ;
 With hairis bundin in traces of gold,
 Schyning full bricht and pleasant to behold ;
 All with greine hatis on thair heidis set,
 With stainis and pearle michtilie ouerfret ;
 With fex fair Squyers cled in the fame culour
 Them leading, for to se was great plesoure.
 First thrie com in, of quhilk the formist had
 Upon hir hand ane fair sparhalk weill maid ;
 And to the King echo kneillit courteflie,
 1730 And him presentit the halk delyverlie,
 Saying, The Greine Knicht hes this halke gow fend,
 Doing him hartlie to gour Grace commend.
 The King this halk refavit fra the maid,
 I thanke richt heartlie the Greine Knicht, he said.
 The uther thre them followit soberlie,
 Quhilk gave thre leich of hundis beninglie
 Unto the King, and all war culourit quhyt.
 Thus faid the formist madine of delyt,
 The Greine Knicht him commendis to gour Grace.
 1740 Then cryit all the court with mirrie face
 Upon this wayis, **VIVE CLARIODUS,**
 Baith wyfe and worthie, nobill and gratus !
 Then begouth menstrellis mirrilie to play,
 And for to dance gounyng knichtis did affay ;
 Clariodus anone begouth to dance,
 And fresch Meliades of most plesance,

Quhilk tham becam fo weill and lustily,
 Them for to se great joy had standing by ;
 The lordis, ladies, and knichtis in the hall
 1750 Danfit anone. Thus mirrie maid thay all.
 When that the dance was ceifit, then the King
 Clariodus besought that he wald sing.
 The quhilk begouth to sing on gudlie wyse
 The song that he had maid of Meliades ;
 Ane squyer of his him helpit courteslie,
 Whilk fang the tennour wonder plesandlie.
 When he had sung it, [then] he tuike delyt,
 And it into ane role cloffit perfite,
 And put [it] in the hand of his Ladie
 1760 Without perfaving, wonder quyetlie.
 Meliades glaidlie tuike the fang,
 And previlie fcho in hir flive it thrang ;
 Syne [secreitlie] his hand fcho ftreingit, thus,
 Half smyling, faying, Sir, ge ar perrellous
 Amongs ladies in companie to fland,
 That fo can thring thir billis in thair hand.
 All eardlie joy for ane quhile dois bot left ;
 When his lustlie triumph was mirrieft
 The King gart call for horse, and that anone
 1770 But more delay, for he wald hameuard gone ;
 Sir Pennent he rewardit moniefold,
 And held him still as knicht of his houphold ;
 His Ladie fair, and hir sex Virgins scheine,
 He gart becum in houphold to the Queine.
 To Windieschoir the King I let furth ryd.
 Clariodus behind him did abyd
 For to reward the fervants of the place,

And so he did ryght larglie with solace ;
 Syne followit on the Court quhilk him abaid,
 1780 And ryght humblie to the King he raid,
 And thankit him of his magnificence,
 And eik the Queine of hir great excellence,
 Quhilk gave thair nobill prefence in the hall ;
 Meliades he thankit eik withall.
 With court royall, thus raid the King furth ryght
 To Windischor, and thair he did alycht,
 Whair [that] the supper redie was at all.
 The King and Queine ar enterit in the hall,
 And to the tabill [war] fet michtilie ;
 1790 And everilk lord of honour, and ladie,
 War fet at supper efter thair degrie,
 And servit fyne with great solemnitie.
 The King commandit Sir Pennent the Knicht
 Sould feifit be, and eik his Ladie bricht,
 And the sex Virgins ; quhilk was donne at all.
 Then menstrallis playit lustilie in the hall.
 Ryght as thay souppit had and said the grace,
 So com the Kingis brother Sir Thomas ;
 Him welcumit the King on fair maneir,
 1800 As ge fall efter in this proces heir.
 Ge micht have feine ane richt triumphant thing,
 Of gudlie knichtis had beine at justing ;
 Bot fra he saw the honnour and the feift,
 That thair was maid baith more and leift
 Unto the Count of Eftur and Clariodns,
 He grew in breift haitfull and invyous ;
 And in his mynd with fellowune rancour fyrit
 He hes ane false and feindlie fact conspyrit

Againis Clariodus the wicht and wyse,

1810 And eike againis his neice Meliades ;

Quhilk tham engreisit oft in grit maneir,

As ȝe fall efter in this Treateſe heir.

The King gart have him to ane chalmer fair,

And royallie gart him be feifit thair.

When this was donne, the King to chalmer went,

With mony earlis, knichtis, and lordis potent,

With mekill glaidnes and with folacing,

With minſtrelis fyne, quhair thay did dance and ſing

Ane weill lang ſpace ; fyne everie lord anone

1820 Hes taine his leive, fyne to his Inis is gone.

Meliades hir leave hes taine at the Queine,

And went to chalmer with hir ladies ſcheine ;

And quhen ſcho was in chalmer quyetlie,

With hir awin fecrite fervants gone onlie,

With the advyſe and leive of hir maiftres,

Scho cauſit dame Romaryn hir adrefe

To fetch the Lady of Joyous Mafon,

To make to hir ane mirrie collation.

Scho bad the varlot Bonvaleir alſo

1830 That he for Sir Clariodus ſould go.

Now Romaryn hes donne this Ladie bring,

And the fex Virgins plesant and bening ;

The varlot eik hes brocht Clariodus.

Meliades was then in heart joyous,

And tham refavit with ane plefant cheir,

And with ane fweit and womanlie maneir,

Sayand to [Sir] Clariodus hir Knight,

Supple me at ȝour pouer and ȝour micht,

This Ladie for to feift, and make gud cheir.

1840 He laid, Madame, forsuith my commoun wer,
 For scho les oft me feistit [weill] for this.
 Ane banquit than begane with joy and blife.
 Meliades then tuike hir be the hand
 With womanlie effeir, doing hir command
 For to begine the tabill mirrilie ;
 Bot this gud Ladie full of courtesie
 Excusit hir to sit so hé at tabill
 With hir that was a princes honorabill ;
 Bot that nicht be no bute scho fat [hir] doune,
 1850 With Amadour ane Knicht of grit renoune.
 And eik scho baid, with wordis amiabill,
 Clariodus to stand besyd the tabill
 And be ane carvour. To quhilk he did consent.
 Lower fat uther ladies consequent.
 Dame Romaryn with twa ladies hir by
 Servit the tabill winder reverently.
 Great was the banquit and plesant was the cheir,
 With mirrie wordis rycht joyous for to heir,
 With fair effeir and rycht glaid countinance,
 1860 With easie ficheis gründit on plefance,
 With law demandis of ladies by and by,
 With fweit love songs and cumlie minstrelly,
 With fecreit blenkitis and inward beholding,
 With finylling loukis full of cherising,
 With birning breift of thirst and hote defyre
 With quhilk ilk wicht flomakit beine in fyre ;
 With all thair plesant drinkis at the tabill,
 With thirst of love so wode and infatiabill
 Within thir lovers breiftis did abound,
 1870 Whair Cupids darts had maid monie ane wounde.

Thair courfis heir I will not all indyte,
 I man on neid refraine my pen alite
 Or be ouer prolix in my sermoning.

When they had long with joy and conforting,
 So nobillie feifit that lang it war to tell,
 All up thay raife, ladie and damofell,
 And rycht demurlie ane dance thay begane,
 Ane gudlier saw never leiveand man.
 Efter the dance, begouth they for to sing ;

1880 Meliades with countenance bening
 The tribill fang, full angill lyke and cleir,
 So that it was ane paradice to heir ;
 Ane nobill tennor held Clariodus,
 The fame to heir was hevinlie and joyous.

Whill long upon this wayis thay did disporte,
 The circumstance war long for to reporte.
 When it was lait, than leave tuike everie wicht,
 The Ladie kneillit and said, Madam, Gud nicht.
 Meliades gart bring of rich colour

1890 Ane goun of claih of gold of grit valour,
 And to the Ladie of Joyous Mafone
 It presentit, saying with bening fermone,
 Þe fall refavein this, gentill Coufingne,
 And for my saik weir it with glaidenting.
 This Lady kneillit, thanking hir hartfully.
 Syne gart scho bring the sex Virgins hir by
 Sex fair gounis of velvot cramoſie,
 With rich arming reverſit nobillie.
 Clariodus rycht glaid was for to fe,
 1900 Of this Ladie the great nobilitie ;
 Hir paſſing fredome quhen he did eſpy,

He was rejosit wounder grittumly.

Thay tuike thair leaves, thair is no mair to fay,
Sir Clariodus convoyit all the way
This Lady to hir chalmer, and anone
He tuike his leave and unto bed is gone.

At morrow raife all the lordis in feir,

And at the Kingis palice did compeire.

The feift indurit furth ane monethes space,

1910 With singing, dansing, and joy with solace ;
Syne lordis tuike thair leave and hamewart went
In court quhilk war not daylie resident.

Sir Pennent tuike his leave with his Ladie,

Rewairdit be the King ryght honorabillie,

Whom convoyit Clariodus the Knicht,

Oft thanking thame with all his wit and nicht

Of the grit kindnes that he into thame fand ;

And gart delyver them, but mair demand,

Aucht hundereth florings : bot Sir Pennent I wife

1920 Was wounder laith for to refavein this ;

Bot he most neidis refave it with infance

Of Sir Clariodus, that nobill Knicht most to advance.

Than ather uther imbracit tenderlie,

And tuike thair leave ryght fair and courteillie.

Kiffit the Ladie hes Clariodus,

Returning hamwart mirrie and joyous

Unto the court, quhair he remainit still,

And thair had daylie plesance at his will

Of his Ladie, and commoning alfo.

1930 Whairfor thair heartis brocht war out of woe.

The Count of Eftur tuike his leave to ryd

To his cuntrie, aue quhill thair to abyd

With his Ladie, to put in governance
His landis haill be gud rewle and ordinance.

The King I let dwell still at Windieschore,
Whill I ȝow tell of new tydingis more,
In historie as my Awthor dois affend,
And on this wayis the Secund Buike I end.

THE THRID BUIK
OF
CLARIODUS.

THE King of Cyprus with his court ryding
Endlang the strandis, in ane fair morning,
Beheld ane schipe with wind and waves dryve,
Quhilk on the cost be tempeft did aryve,
Whairin war marchandis out of Sarifinis land.
The King descendit to heir of thair tydand.
They schew him that the Caine of Tartarie
With fortie thowfand Turkis was redie
To enter in his land incontinent,
10 And him perfew with weiris vehement ;
And faid, that thay his ordinance had feine,
Quhilk on the sea war cumand all bedeine.
The King abaiffit was [richt] grittumlie,
And for his counfall fent he haiftilie ;
And quhan that with his lordis he beine advyfisit,
For his vasselis to fend thay have devyfisit,
That thay within fyve dayis fould compeir
On thair best wyfe, on hors and armour cleir ;

And to gar provide tounis with victuall,
 20 For to withstand his foes that fould affaill.

This beand donne, the King and eike the Queine
 To Bruland went, ane toun with wallis scheine,
 And thair within providit for ane geir.

His letters he derec^tit far and neir
 In his cuntrie, and wairnit all his leigis
 In ilk toun to provide for the feigis.

Thair com to Bruland be the fyvetine day
 Awecht thoufand speiris in full gud aray ;
 Of quhilkis the King held four thoufand still,

30 The uther half they fent the Marches till,
 To keip the cuntrie endlang the coast.
 The Kingis will fulfillit ather hof^t.

Within schort tyme the Turkis did aryve,
 And to Bruland aprochit thay belyve,
 And thair the feige full stonglie thay confirme :
 The Sowdane with his lordis did determe
 To have the toun or ever they fra it raid,
 And thairon grit avoues have thay maid.

The King to counfall with his lordis went,
 40 And ordanit folkis in guid abuilgement
 For to affay the Turkis day by day.
 The Cyprianis rycht manfullie did affay
 The Sarafinis full oft with fword and speir,
 And ischit out on them with awfull feir ;
 On quhais meiting was grit occisioun,
 On baith the fydis was flauchter rycht felloun.
 The wird of quhilk com to the reallem of France,
 Of quhilk the King had [fo] grit displefance,
 Twa thoufand speiris he fent them to fupport,
 50 With his Conftabill ; quhilk redie maid at schort,

And paffit [ftrait] to Cyprus the cuntrie,
 To Carados ane walled toune by fea,
 Whilk was ane myle from Bruland and no more,
 Whair thay on Sarafinis affailȝit fore.

From France to Ingland com this ilk tyding.

When it confavit Philipon the King,
 He was displeasit [eik] in great maneir,
 The King of Cyprus was his coufing neir.
 First with his counsall he did him advyse,

60 Syne to Clariodus upon this wyfe
 He said, ȝe ar ane Knicht of nobill fame,
 Throuchout the warlid spart is ȝour name ;
 My brother of Cyprus and eame I mone support,
 Quhairfoir ȝe take with ȝow ane lustie forte
 Of men of armis, aucht hundreth that ar wicht,
 And speid ȝow to the thrist with all ȝour micht ;
 For ȝe fall capitane be and governour
 Unto that rout as Knicht of great valoure.

Then said Clariodus, I thank ȝow grittunlie,
 70 ȝour Heines Sir, that me fo nobillie
 List to advance into fo heich renoune :
 Bot I ungainand am ; be this resoune,
 He foulde ane lord be of gritter knowlege
 And wit of weirlie experiance and age
 Nor am I : ȝit to take sic thing on hand,
 Nocht this I say, ȝour Heichnes to gainfand ;
 For I no tyme ȝour command will refuse,
 My unsufficience I speke this to excuse.
 Thair is no bute heirin to speik no more,
 80 Clariodus moft neidis make thore.

The King gart sounis his Letters furth adres
 For knichtis of grit fame and worthines.

When that the armie cuming was all cleir,
 Clariodus, he said, on this maneir,
 Thir folkis I beteach in *ȝour* keiping,
 More trusting in *ȝour* wit and governing
 Nor ony uther Knicht in all my ringne ;
 This companie thairfor I *ȝow* refigne,
 Befeikand *ȝow* tham wyflie to demane,
 90 Whill *ȝe* in Ingland vifie us againe.
 With that he did imbrace Clariodus,
 Taking his leave with wordis pitious ;
 Wha said unto the King, Wald God that I
 All *ȝour* command fall doe so diligently,
 Efter my wit and my knowleging,
 That to *ȝour* Heichnes falbe grit pleasing.
 With wordis of pitie and of tendernes
 He tuike his leave this nicht ; and did adres
 Unto the Queine, and tuike his leave humblie ;
 100 And at Meliades, quhilk sefreitlie
 Bad him, that he fould quyetlie at eve,
 Unto hir wairdrope cum and take his leave.
 Meliades unto hir chalmer went,
 And all hir ladies unto thair bedis fent,
 Saying, swho was dispositioun hevilie,
 Whairfor swho wald that nicht [all] quyetlie
 Repose hir in hir wardrop at hir ease.
 This Ladie, quhom na joyes nicht appease
 For the departing of Clariodus,
 110 With ane regrating wondour dolorus
 Adoune swho set hir at hir bed feit,
 Full sorrowfull, and brifsting out of greit,
 Bedewing all hir gudlie visage faire
 With teiris bricht, out letting fitches fair,

As fcho that mundane joy [wald ay] denud.
 Romaryn bad hir be in comfort gud,
 And preichit hir with wirdis of plefance ;
 Saying, Madame, in heart take no pennance,
 For *ȝe* fould rather glaid and mirrie be,
 120 Confiddering that he paflis in suplie
 Of Cristine men, the Sarafinis to refift.
 All this micht not hir from weiping defift,
 Bathit in teiris wox hir bricht visage ;
 Scho faid, Let be, how fould my wo affwage,
 When he that is the flour of chivalrie,
 So luifing me, and I him so tenderlie,
 Sall pairt from me into so far cuntrie,
 Nocht witing efter if I fall him *fe* ;
 Now quhat fall wurd of me fra he be gone?
 130 My heart is deid and cauld lyke ony stome ;
 Ha Romareine, aleace, quhat fall I fay,
 How fould I leive, my heart is all away !
 Thus weipit fcho and waillit pitioufliie,
 That ony wicht micht rewth have and mercie
 Hir to behold, or *ȝit* in chalmer be ;
 Thair is no wicht so crewell but pitie,
 That micht from teiris hold, or *ȝit* conteine
 Of weiping, fra this Lady he had feine.
 Softly scho faid, Romaryn go espy,
 140 Furth at the garding postrum quyetylly,
 If that my Knicht be cumit thair or nocht.
 This Romaryn hes hir commandement wrocht,
 And fand him at the *ȝet*, and him refavit ;
 Syne up to wardrobe paflit unperfavit,
 [Where that his Ladie lay on couch alone]
 Deadlie of cheir as in her lyfe war none.

Adoune he sat besyd hir on his kne,
 For love of God, he faid, Madame, let be
 Ȝour cair and woe, and take to ȝow glaidnes ;

150 For out of dread, I have more hevines
 For forrow of ȝow nor dowbill of my fmert
 Albeit that daith fould take me be the heart ;
 Ȝe aucht be glaid, Madame, of this voyage,
 For all my freindis of this ilk paſſage,
 This wait I weill, thay fould it mirrie maik,
 And forie be if it I fould forſaike ;
 Quhilk if I had for ony dreid refuſit,
 Of couardice men wald me have accusit,
 Than had I beine degradit and unabill

160 To love ane Kingis dochter amiabill.
 Madam, have mercie on ȝour awin woe ;
 Gif ȝe no lift, aleace, for to do fo,
 For love of God then mercie have on me,
 That may for pitie not fufteine to ſe
 The forowful ficht of ȝow my Ladie fweit.
 With that the Knicht anone brift out to greit,
 That he no wirdis mo as then nicht ſpeke
 For inwart wo ; it feamit his heart fould breke,
 So did the fwird of sorrow throw it glyd.

170 Thir loveris weiping [ſo] on everie fyd,
 Ouercum with painis innumerabill,
 With fighis and sobis uncoverabill
 Within thair breifts, that long they ſpake na thing,
 For nather of them could ane word out bring ;
 With hir was nocth, bot ay, Aleace, my Knicht !
 And he againe, Aleace, my Ladie bricht !
 And thus thay fure quhile it was neir the day,
 Than [wakeful] Romaryn did often fay,

The nicht was fullie gone, [the] day aprochit ;
 180 Quhilk wurd outhrow [baith] thair heartis brochit
 Scharp as ane lance, quhilk neidit not I weine,
 For sorrow aneuch was ellis thame betwine.
 Then said Clariodus, My Lady bricht,
 Thair is no mair, Fairweill, and have gud nicht ;
 I recommend me to σ our ladyheid,
 Oft prayand God preserve σ our gudlieheid ;
 Think on my faith, think on my trew service,
 Think on σ our Knicht. And quhen Meliades
 Saw no refuge, bot he wald pairt hir fro,
 190 In swoune fcho fell for inward paine and woe.
 In armis softlie tuike Clariodus,
 And with ane cheir full sad and dollorus,
 On bed hir laid full tenderlie and soft,
 And with his hands he held hir heid on loft,
 Beholding on hir gudlie vifage cleir,
 Whairon the rolling teiris did appeare,
 As bricht dew dropis upon the lillie quhyte ;
 Quhairof the deadlie woe can no man indyt,
 Nor half the cair of Sir Clariodus ;
 200 His hard regrat to heir was pitious.
 With cauld rose water com Romaryn faft,
 And on hir face and handis did it caft ;
 Bot lang fcho lay with deadlie vifage greine,
 That it was rewth and pitie for to feine.
 And quhen that fcho ouircom, fcho did up braid,
 Whair beine my Knicht Clariodus ? fcho said.
 Quoth he, My heartis Ladie I am heir,
 For love of God make now fum better cheir,
 And think that we fall meit σ it efter this,
 210 Quhen we fall have ineuch of joy and blis ;

My only Ladie traift withoutin dreid,
 That for *ȝour* faike againe I fall me speid
 Into all haift ; and eik *ȝe* fal beleive,
 That I fo laith am *ȝow* [thus] for to greive,
 That lang I fall not byd from *ȝour* prefence,
 For unto me ane death is *ȝour* absence.
 Forswith scho said, Clariodus, I trow
 That of this wrold departs from uther now
 The trewest lovers, and the maist faithfull eike ;

220 And of ane thing my Knight I *ȝow* befeike,
 Thocht *ȝe* be far fra me in ane ftrange ringne,
 That *ȝe* be neir to me in sweit thinking ;
 And all of fabill falbe myne aray
 Whill *ȝe* returne, thairfor make no delay ;
ȝe fall have heir of gold ane diamant,
 When *ȝe* it fe of me be memorant.
 And he gave hir ane rubbie bricht of hew ;
 With that imbracing can thir lovers trew,
 And kiflit utheris with tearis distelling,
 230 And fo weill long thay stid without speiking.

Depairtit thus the Knicht Clariodus,
 And his Ladie, with fighis dolorus.
 It fould me vex and eik my auditouris,
 For to indyte the half of thair dolouris ;
 Furth of the chalmer went this wofull wicht,
 With sorrowfull teiris blindit was his fight ;
 To the postrum Romaryn him convoyit,
 And he, that with melancholie was anoyit,
 Streingit hir hand and micht na wirds out bring,
 240 And to his chalmer went with fair fighing,
 And upon groufe fell on his bed adoune,
 Making ane sorrowfull lamentatioun ;

Quhilk war ouer tedious heir for to rehearfe,
 Quhairfor I will not put it into verfe.
 He tuike na clraithis off, he lift not to fleip,
 Bot quhile the day he did compleine and weipe.

Romaryn unto hir Ladie went, and said,
 Madam, take comfort and anon be glaid,
 Your Knicht is trew, and will belyve returne.

250 As he hes heicht, and will not long sojorne ;
 And furth scho preichit hir ane fair sermuone :
 Syne in hir bed scho hes hir laid adoune,
 Whair scho maid ane regrat lamentabill,
 Whilk to ane bissie mynd is importabill
 To beir, to apprehend, or to indyte ;
 And eik hir wo me irkis for to wryte,
 For never quhill scho faw hir Knicht againe
 Scho danfit, fang, or wore ane hew bot ane,
 And that was fabill, figne of steidfastnes ;

260 For so hir heart was cled with hevines,
 That scho no lift to cum in companie,
 Bot folitar to walke all quyetlie.

As goldin Phebus the bricht illuminar,
 Ascendit in the orient preclair,
 And his diurnall course had new begune,
 Full lufstillie up raife this Mars his fone,
 The flour of armis nixt God armipotent ;
 Clariodus, I meane, full diligent
 Addreſſit him at morne to his jurnay,
 270 With all the haſt and labour that he may.
 When he had servit God and taine difſune,
 The trumpits blew to hors ane mirrie tyme ;
 He lape on hors, and all his companie ;
 The Court did himi convoy rycht honorabillie,

With all the nobill folkis of the toun :
 Thus raid they furth with trumpit and clarion
 Whill thay sex myle had him convoyit,
 Thay tuike thair leave, baith burges and barrnet,
 And hame returnit to Windifchore againe.

280 Clariodus anone the flude hes taine,
 He schippit in and all the reall forte,
 And foune they did arive at Bruland porte ;
 So weill to tham did Eolus his part,
 Keiping the wind from everie contrair airt,
 That be the help of him and Neptunus,
 Withouttin storme or raine tempesteous,
 Into the port of Carados thay aryve,
 And from the schipe went unto land belyve ;
 Whom foune persavit hes the garitouris,
 290 That in the toune and wallis lay and bouriis,
 And tauld the King of sic ane companie
 Had in thair port aryvit haistilie.
 Blyth was the King and glaid, for weill he witt
 That they war freindis, his foes to refist.

When the grit Conftabill of France hard tyding
 Of Sir Clariodus fuddant aryveing,
 Rycht glaid he was, for divers to him schew
 Of his valiant deidis and his vertew ;
 Whairfor on hors ascendit he anone,
 300 And diverse lordis maid with him to gone,
 And with grit honour met Clariodus,
 With knichtis valiant and verteous,
 Saying, That he was welcum in that land :
 And ather hes taine uther be the hand,
 And tenderlie maid thair aquentance ;
 Syne to the toune returnit with plefance,

And royllie in at the portis raid.
 The Frensch Constabill hes grit instance maid
 Unto Clariodus, with him to go
 310 To supper, and his tender cousingis two ;
 He grantit him, and baid his companie,
 The fairest luging and the maist gudlie
 Of all the toun, and thair harberie take ;
 Foure louetennents thairefter gart he make,
 To put his folkis in rewle and governance ;
 To supper syne thay passit with plesance.
 And so among all uther commoning,
 He speirit of the tounis besieging ;
 And fyne of thame within and thair defence,
 320 And of the Cainis he magnificece,
 Of everilke skirmage and new debait
 Of Cyprianis and of Sarafeinis of lait.
 The Constabill utart everie thing at richt,
 Wha wan the feild, and quha was put to flicht.
 Whilk commoning was plesant and joyous
 Unto the heiring of Sir Clariodus,
 Wha tuike his leave when the supper was done,
 And to his folkis haifit him full founie,
 And bad them all be readie be the day,
 330 Inarmit weill, and into gud aray,
 For he wald let them wit of his cuming.
 Thay grantit glaidlie all to his biding.
 Clariodus reposit him that nicht,
 And on the morne, be the day waxit licht,
 He ischit furth with all his companie,
 Enarmit at all peices nobillie,
 And on the Heathine hof full hardilie
 He maid ane haistie onfet, with ane cry,

The mightie God namand upon height ;

340 With that they rufshit on them with sic mieht
 Throuchout the hofst alsweith raife the affray,
 For thay war taine all out of [gud] aray.
 Our Crifline men fo fearcelie them affaillit,
 That baith in ftrength and hardiment thay faillit.
 Bot throw the bugills and the clarious foundis,
 Returnit all this false heard of Mahoundis,
 And cruellie fet on Clariodus :
 Bot he, that was both wyse and chevalrus,
 Loude his anfeinȝe he did among them cry,
 350 And with his hé renownit companie,
 With speiris seharp fo manlie with them delt,
 Whill monie of thame anone the deid hes felt ;
 Of quhilk up raife the clamour and the found,
 That all the wallis rang of Bruland toun,
 And all the toun of Carrados alfo ;
 The King himself unto the wallis did go,
 The Constabill of France with monie knicht.

Be this the day upleirit and wox licht,
 Whair thay nicht weill behold the battell,
 360 Wha did defend, and wha did best affaill.
 Ferce was the fight, and awful for to se,
 On ather fyd thair was bot Do or die.
 Clariodus with michtie speir in hand
 Affaileit so, no man nicht him gainstand,
 Bot ather man or hors ȝeid to the eard,
 Among the Heathen fo manlie he him fleird.
 When monie ane speir he brokin had asunder,
 He drew his fword, and thocht that it was wonder
 Him to behold, quhilk as ane lyoun wod
 370 Never feicit to sched his foes bluid.

Befor his face, loe, heir ane knicht goes doun,
 And thair ane uther lyis into fwoune,
 The thrid on arfoun gapis as he war deid,
 Fra fum he carves the arme, and fum the heid,
 That of his deidis grite plefour had the King,
 And so had all the peple auld and ginge.
 The French Constabill persavit everilk deill,
 How no helme nicht gainstand his brand of steill,
 And how the Heathin he huntit to and fro,
 380 Howbeit thay war fighteris monie mo,
 Saying, He wenit into threttie knichts
 Had never beine the curage nor the michts,
 That he saw into that Knicht that day.
 His he honour on all fydis praisit thay.
 Ane Heathin Knicht that was of maist renoune
 On Sarafeinis fyd, prysit ane champioun,
 That to the Caine was verie neir couaigne,
 Quick throw the thikest of the preise did thring,
 And set upon Clariodus the gud ;
 390 He, as [ane] lyoun, alper, feirce and wod,
 Ane speir recoverit [lyand] neir him by,
 And met the Knicht so wonder feircelie,
 And so him raife all through the bodie out,
 That to the eard he duschit doun but doubt.
 With that on height he cryit on his anfinge,
 And he, quhom that no Turkis nicht dereinge,
 Set on them new with all his companie
 With fo grit curage and fo hardilie,
 And cryit upon the Heathine with ane schout,
 400 And with thair steillit brandis that war stout,
 Thay faid thair fydis for till fow full faire,
 And dang thame doun in draves heir and thair,

Whill all the feilds with deid bodies war spred,
And all the Heathinis gave thair bake and fled.

Be that the nicht aprochit was and neir,
That skantlie men as than nicht know thair feir ;
Quhairfor he left the chafe as [for] that nicht,
And enterit in the toune with wallis wicht
Of Carados againe to his luging.

410 The Constabill with folkis auld and ȝing,
Of all the toune him met triumphantlie,
[Who had that day behayd so valiantlie,]
Him welcuming with nobill feift and cheir,
Being to the toun convoyit on blyth maneir.
The fair begining maid Clariodus
Upon the Heathene, that was utragius ;
Whome I leave in the weiris on this wayis,
And speike I will of fair Meliades.

420 Quhen it was manifest to this trator Knight,
The Kingis brother, full of fraud and flicht,
How that Clariodus with ane armie
In Cyprus land was [thus] in chevalrie,
The Count of Eftur home to his cuntrie
Was went also, his barnage for to fee,
He feingȝit letteris of his awin indyte,
Throw his [foull] invy, malice and disperte,
As they had cumit from Clariodus
Unto the Kingis dochter, beiring thus,
That scho the King shuld poyfoun prefentlie,
430 That thay the cuntrie nicht posfeid thairby.
Quhilk letteris in a bag they had bein clofit,
And with ane mynd wonder evill disposit,
Unto the King he went in secreit wayis ;
The Queine intill ane uther chalmer lyis

Richt weill at ease, and wist nocth of this thing.
 This tratour Knight hes schawin to the King,
 That Sir Clariodus had letters sent
 Unto his dochter Meliades the gent,
 To poyfoune him, that thay micht be his airis ;
 440 And so the treffoun furth to him declairis,
 And schew him furth thir letteris oppinlie,
 That he himself had dyttit traitouroufie,
 And faid, that in ane taverne quhair he lay,
 Ane mesflinger thair ludgit in the way,
 And in his drukinnes, as did befall,
 Out of his bulgit schuik his letters all ;
 Ane varlot of the taverne thame up tuike,
 And brocht them me upon the morne to luike,
 And of this mater of me he was so red
 450 [When of the letters I him quetioned]
 He him abfentit and hes fled away ;
 Quhairfor in haft, without ony mair delay,
 I com to warne ȝow of this falfe treason.
 The King him trowit, and without reafoun,
 For haftilie credit he wald gif all tyme,
 An war it anents never so grit ane cryme,
 Quhilk is ane fault full grit into ane King ;
 He braid unto his fword, rycht haistining,
 And wald have went his dochter for to fla.
 460 This tratour wist if he went out sa,
 That redderis fould have maid impediment,
 For all hir lovit that upon hir blent.
 Na, Sir, he faid, my counsall ȝe fall doe,
 Sum burriouris ȝe fall gar cum ȝow to,
 And tham command to worke at my bidding,
 And I fall caus but ony persaving,

That scho be taine and flaine without the toun,
 And thus fall endit be hir falle treafoun ;
 I taike on me to taike him efterwartz,
 470 And of sik justice gif to him his part.

The King neir wode in his melancholie,
 Hes gart be brocht thir murtherers in hy,
 And them commandit under all heift paine,
 That his ane dochter sould with thame be flaine,
 That litill wift, aleace, of this mater,
 , For paine inewch was at hir heart full neir
 For the lang absence of Clariodus.

This traitour Knicht hes furth delyverit thus,
 And went to the chalmer of Meliades,
 480 And cryit furth on hir this haftie wayis
 Unto the King. And scho but mair abaid
 Obayit him, and on hir kne abraid,
 Sum deill affrayit, furth scho did hir marke
 In treates with hir kirtill and hir farke,
 For scho was ay obedient, meike and wylfe,
 And beningne alse, as heart could [eer] devyle,
 Trufting hir father had beine at sum malice ;
 My deireft on, scho said, quhat may gow pleis ?
 The King, he said, wald speike with gow allone.

490 He wald not let Romaryn with hir gone.
 And quhen, aleace, thistender innocent,
 Thus with hir Eame throw the hall is went,
 He hir delyverit hes or he wald flint
 To the murderer, quhilk haifilie hir hint
 On felloun wayis, rycht rudlie with rusching,
 Nocht handillit as the dochter of a King,
 Bot as trespassour with awfull cheir and schore ;
 Hir tender bonis thay stronglit all so fore

Scho wald have cryit ; bot fcho nicht not, alleace,
 500 So with hir courtche they wompillit all hir face,
 Stopping hir mouth so hard and cruellie
 [That] fcho nicht uneis draw hir breath gudlie :
 So furth at ane privie postrum hir led
 Swiftlie to ane forrest as the traitour bad,
 To murther hir quhar na man nicht tham fe.

Ah ! be this woldis instabilitie
 Wha fould in riches or hie estate beleive,
 Sen nane the chance of fortoune [can] echeve !
 Hir variance and unstabillitie
 510 Alyke is redie to heich and law degré ;
 For febilnes oft cumis efter nicht,
 And efter dayis cumis the dewlie nicht,
 And oft tymis joy cumis efter forrow and caire,
 And efter winter cumis the fumer fair ;
 Throw wyldnes of [the] froftis and of hail,
 Murnis full oft the merie nichtingall,
 And blythlie singis on the ilk branch againe
 Quhair scho befor had weipit hard for paine :
 So men full oft throw walth and grite riches
 520 Fallis in povertie and in febilnes,
 Whom efter fortoune glaidlie dois restore
 To mair honour nor ever thay war before ;
 And git thairefter flydis doune fra hir quheill,
 From weill to woe, and fyne from wo to weill.
 This transitorie joy it nicht not left,
 Heir is no ease bot trubill and unrest ;
 For alle unfiker is heir gour dwelling,
 All changing is our joy fra abyding.

Schir Thomas is returnit to the King,
 530 And said, Be glaid, Sir, take gud conforting,

ȝe ar delyverit weill and haftilie
 Of ȝone wicket and deidlie enemie,
 I thinke to delyver ȝow eik also
 Of him that is the worker of this wo ;
 ȝe fall the morne gar call to ȝow the Queine,
 And all ȝour maist familiaris bedeine,
 And schaw to them the cace how it is went ;
 And gif that thay be not thairwith content,
 ȝe fall them punisch as it weill effeiris,
 540 Sen that ȝe know the danger that appeiris.
 When this was donne he paflit to his bed,
 Thinkand that he his purpose weill had sped.
 The King, in his melancolike passioun,
 The nicht all ower turnit up and dounie,
 And in his breist ay wirkung to and fro
 This fuddane vengeance and [alſe] haiftie wo
 Upon his dochter and himſelf in eike,
 For sake of hir that feamit wyſe and meike,
 And fyne ſo ſweit and fair ane creature,
 550 And ſo weill taught and lovit abone meafoure,
 And was his only bairne withoutin mo ;
 Unſufferabill was his paine and wo
 For his awin chyld of fatherlie pitie,
 That feho the cauſe of ſic ane treafoune be.
 Romarein trowit, that feho ſo long abaid,
 The King in tender commoning hir had
 Of pleſand materis, ſo that feho thocht not lang ;
 And this feho thocht, aleace, feho thocht all wrang,
 It was not ſo, it was the more pitie,
 560 Scho being of ſo wouderfull bewtie.
 Upon the morne the King ſent for the Queine,
 And tauld hir of Meliades the ſcheine,

And quhat was wrocht ; thair is no mair to tell,
 With pitious cry scho to the eard doun fell
 In swouning cauld, and with ane deidlie face,
 And of hir ladies oft was the Aleace !
 Then nobill knichts with wofull heartis ran,
 And held hir up with visage paill and wan.

When this is knowin in castell and in toun,

570 The clamour raife with lamentatioun
 Amongis the pepill, with hiddious noysis and beir
 [For sake of her, that was their Princeſs deir,]
 Them selfs demainand that pitie was to fee,
 Wringand thair handis, and cryand for pitie,
 Beitting thair breiftis and face forowfullie,
 And tormenting them selfs without mercie.
 No wofuller in Troy raife up the foun,
 For Hectoris daith, thair mightie champioun ; .
 Nor quhen the Greikis enterit in thair ire
 580 In ower thair wallis, and fet thair toun on fyre,
 And flew Priam, and brint Paladeon,
 Nor was into the court of Philipon,
 With lamentatioun, and with sorrowfull cry,
 For hir that was the richt lodilar and gy
 Of vertew, bewtie, and of gentilnes,
 Fredome, renoune, honour, and nobilnes.
 Wo worth the King, thay cry, and his counsell,
 Doing this deid so wicket and cruell,
 Quhilk fall this realme turne to disstruetioun
 590 By the vengence that fall from hevine ftryke doun
 Upon [thir] wretchis for the blood faikles
 Of hir that in all vertew flude maikles
 Into this wyde warld without comparisoun ;
 Fy on the murtherers ! fy on the false trasoun !

Fy on the cruell daith for ever more !

The skaith is done that no man may reflore.

Bot had it beine kend to the pepill thair,

How that Sir Thomas kindlit had thair cair,

He hade beine rent thair with ane thowfand handis,

600 Thatȝit the mater na thing understandis.

Romaryn rave hir hair out with hir neives,

And with hir cairfull voice the court scho deives,

Smyting hir face that forow was to fe.

Now of this lamentatioun let I be,

And speik I will of fair Meliades,

How that scho was demainit, and quhat wayis.

When that thir four murthereris anone

War with the Ladie to the forrest gone,

And had hir brocht unto the famine fleide,

610 Whair [that] they thought to put hir to [the] deid,

Thay said, Ladie, richt heir moneȝe die ;

Hir countinance than pitie was to fe ;

Trembling for dreid, abaisit of hir cheir,

With quaiking voice scho said, My frindis deir,

Whyould I die ? Haveȝe that in command ?

What have I donne ? Thay said, without demand

We wait no caus, but we commandit ar

To slayȝow heir, dreiddles we want no mair.

Then fell scho on growfe richt pitioufie

620 Befor thir murthereris, asking ay mercie

Full rewthfullie, with lamentabill voice,

For love of Jesus that diet on the croſe,

Withȝour waponis have pitie me to ding,

Thinke that I am the dochter of a King,

Let manlie pitie enter inȝour hearts,

To doe to me, ane fillie woman, fmarts,

And thinke that of ane woman þe war borne ;
 Mercie, for him that wore the croune of thorne,
 Of me, alleace, that may ȝow not gainstand,
 630 That now ȝour scharpe fwordis hes in [ȝour] hand.
 Thay faid, No buite is for to carpin fo,
 We mone our selfs be flaine or ellis ȝow flo.
 Then towart hir they went with awfull fair.
 Now grant me this, fcho faid, I aske no mair,
 Let me heir to God do my oratioun,
 Syne this mone be my laft devotioun.
 Go speid ȝow soune, quoth thay, and tarie nocht.
 Alleace, hir spirit than was all on flaucht.
 Doune on hir kneis fcho sat full humbillie,
 640 Quaiking as aspe, and schaiking pitioufie,
 For dreid of daith afrayit out of measure
 Fra that fcho saw [that] thair was no favour.
 Scho faid, O Lord, that fittis in hevinis hé,
 Of mercie King, thow mercie have on me ;
 As thow disdainit for me thy creature
 To licht into the glorious virgine pure,
 And sufferit for me deiddie woundis fyve,
 And raiſe upon the third day [syne] to lyve,
 And fyne affcendit to the hevinis with glore,
 650 Thow grant me this that meikle I implore ;
 As I am innocent of this mateir,
 Have mercie on me, Lord, I thé require,
 And save me from thir tormentouris fell,
 Quhilk in this wood with waponis wald me quell.
 When fcho had prayit lang upon this wyſe,
 To God fcho hir betaught, and syne did ryſe ;
 Syn to hir tormentouris fcho did returne :
 And thay that hard hir praying thus and murne,

And hard hir pitious lamentatioun,
 660 Hir bening wordis and hir orisoun,
 Weill knew of gylt that fcho was all faikles ;
 Whairfor they rewit on hir hevines ;
 They went altogither, and was advyfit
 To banisch hir, quhilk founue they have devifit,
 And thocht thay wald hir nocht faikleflie flo ;
 And, thus according, [unto] hir they goe :
 And fcho, that weinit to have bein deid anone,
 Fell into fround alfe cauld as ony flone ;
 And quhen fcho overcome, fcho cryit Mercie :
 670 Thay faid, Lady, for rewth we will apply
 To faveȝour lyfe, bot ȝe fall banischit be ;
 For verilie we think it grit pitie,
 To flay ane Ladie of fo grit bewtie.
 Scho thankit them on kneis heartfullie,
 And with hir armis finall thair legs imbract,
 And heift to take the fea in all heaft,
 Saying, Fair firis, I may ȝow never aquite,
 That me to leive hes grantit fik respite ;
 Rewardis I have none to give ȝow heir,
 680 Sic as I have fik fall ȝe have but weir ;
 Scho hir denudit of hir vestur thair,
 And left no thing upon hir bodie faire
 Except hir fark bot fcho to them it gave ;
 Thay neidit nothing at hir [for] to crave,
 For fcho them frelie offerit but difdaine
 All that fcho turfit, but hir litill chaine.
 When this was donne thay to toun thanm adrefſit ;
 And fcho in middes of the wyld forrefſit
 Full waine of wemen was left hir alone ;
 690 Hir visage was all [weit and] wobegone,

In farke allone, withoutin cloathes moe,
At midnicht mirke, and wist not quhair to go.

To Shir Thomas thay turnit hame againe,
And tauld him that the Ladie thay had flaine.
With wordis fair so flatterit he the King,
He was content quhen he hard this tyding ;
The auld servandis haill he gart remove,
That to the King [leill] favour had or love ;
Whom he suspecht gart banisch furth totell,
700 And quhom he lovit thay still in Court did dwell :

So be his wicket wayis of traoun,

He brocht this realme neir to confusioun.
He dreid the Count of Efluris ham cuming ;
Quhairfor he sent to him but taryng
Counterfute letters upon the Kingis name,
That he sould dwell in his cuntrie at hame
Ay quhill he fend to him ane wryting [clair,]
Or ellis that he sould cum on no maneir.

This Lady naikit in the wood allone
710 Full pitioufli did weipe and make hir mone,
Beseikand God to fend hir help and grace
To schape out of that dreidfull wildernes.
Scho paflit furth and wist not quhair to go,
Into the wood ay turnand to and fro
Forward and bakward amongs the thornis keine
Whill all to rent on breeris bir farke beine ;
And quhen scho hard ocht steiring hir besyde
Into ane busch full darne scho wald hir hyde,
Quaiking for dreid that folk sould hir espy
720 And murther hir, alleace, scho wist not quhy ;
Whyllis scho wald ly still and tak [gude] keip,
And uther quhyllis out throw the hedgis creipe,

Whill that hir hyd as luftie lillie quhyt,
 Whairon to luke was funtyme grite delyte,
 Was all to rent and carvin heir and thair
 With thornie pikis wounding hir full fair ;
 Hir tender hyd and [luftie] snow quhyt fkine,
 As Mayis bloffome, smoth, [and] quhyt and thine,
 Was all depaint, allace, of reid culLOUR,

730 As mixteoun of rose and lillie flour,
 Throw blood that was [from] hir bodie bereft,
 As scho with seurgis had beine all to beft.

That nicht scho paffit with fo grit pennence,
 Praying to God with bening sufference.
 And be the morrow cleirit up alyte,
 Out of the forreft scho was paffit quite ;
 Then went scho furth in warld scho wist no quhair,
 Whill that for fault of meit scho hungerit fair.
 Syne of ane litill hous scho gat ane fight,

740 To quhilk scho did hir speid with all hir might,
 Whair scho ane woman fand, to quhome scho said,
 Fair dame, for love of that ilk blifflit maid,
 That bure the birth that sufferit for us deid,
 Refresh me with ane litill peice of breid,
 And gif me ofȝour almons for to eit,
 That am in poynt to fwone for want of meit.

This woman was bot rud of conditioun,
 And hir beheld fo maiglit up and dounie,
 Scho said, Evill woman fra my dore ȝe go,

750 And ask them meit that the demainit fo.
 Then weipit scho that was full will of reid,
 And furth scho paſt, aſking of God remeid.
 Richt far scho went and faw na kynd of tounie,
 For fault of foude scho was in poynt to fwone ;

Febill fcho wox, and full of hevines,
 That had beine in rest with all tendernes ;
 Be furfute of travell and hir grit rebute,
 Quhilk was not wonit to gang upon hir fute,
 Hir tyrrit lymis no farther nicht hir beir ;
 760 Whairfor in heart fcho had full mikle feare.
 Bot, as God wald, ane uther hous fcho saw,
 And as fcho nicht fcho towardis it could draw,
 And fand the gudwyfe standing in the dore ;
 Scho said, Have mercie on me ane woman pure,
 That far hes gaine without cloathis or fude ;
 For love of him that stervit on the rude,
 De me refresh with sum paire of gour meit,
 As I that hungrie am and faine wald eit.
 This woman was in heart merciabill ;
 770 When fcho had hard hir wordis lamentabill,
 Scho hir beheld that fair was for to fe,
 Replenischit with wonderfull bewtie,
 Hir plefant port, hir sweit and louefium face,
 Hir bricht hairis wyde wavelling out of lace,
 Hir snow quhyt face with bloud all reid depaint,
 Hir self so made, so weirie and so faint,
 Hir lustie vilage all with teiris weite,
 As bricht dew dropis on the lillie sweit ;
 So fore with mercie hir heart was owercum
 780 Hir to behold weiping so allone,
 Scho grat for rewth, and tuike hir in hir hous,
 Saying, My doghter how hes it happinit thus ?
 I trow sum folk that hes beine evill advifit,
 For gour grit bewtie hes gow thus supprysit.
 Nay, laid this Ladie, traist gow verilie,
 That I am undeflorit of my bodie

Of all filthines or sic corruptioun ;
 Fair dame, have mercie on my infortoun,
 And schaw me how my leving I fall wine,
 790 And quhat labour first I fall [to] begyne ;
 I wald doe service faine for my living,
 And fall be leill, doubt ge na uther thing.
 Ane peice of gray breid the wyfe hes to hir brocht,
 The quhilke to eate [scho] wounder gud it thocht,
 That breid of maine to hir was never so fweit,
 Quhilk plesantlie scho tuike and [soon did] eate :
 Ane drinke of water than to hir scho gave,
 Saying, My dochter, so mote God me fave,
 I wald wisch gow unto sum gud maistres,
 800 Bot ane poure woman is myself doubtles,
 I may gow not susteine [long] heir with me ;
 I have ane cummer dwelling by the sea,
 That deallis with marchandice and hes riches,
 And mister hes of servantes as I ges,
 I traist scho fall refave gow in service ;
 Scho is alse full of vertew and gentrice :
 Bot ge ar naikit, and thairfor, Alleace !
 And I have no gud claithes in this place
 Gow for to geive ; bot for my faullis heill,
 810 For love of God sumthing fall I [gow] deill.
 Ane old fakcloath [belyve] scho brocht hir thair,
 And hes it put upon the Lady faire,
 And with ane corde it fessonit hir about.
 On humbill wayis scho thankit hir but doubt,
 Saying, Fair dame, God gow forwaird and quyte,
 And gif to gow the kinrike of delyte,
 For it that ge have gevine me richt heir,
 Of meit, and cloathes, and meritabill cheir.

This Gudwyfe raiſe, and ſaid, My dochter fair,
 820 Now goe with me. Togidder then thay fair
 Unto the ſea ſtrandis whill thay [be] come ;
 Scho fand hir cummer at hir hous at home,
 Scho helfit hir, and on this wayis ſcho ſaid,
 Commer, I have brocht [heir] to ȝow ane maid
 That wald have ſervice, and ȝe have mikill to do,
 I dare be bought that vertewouſe is ſcho ;
 Scho is weill taught, and full of gude maneir,
 Scho gainis weill to be ȝour chalmerer.
 Ha, gude cummer, that is weill ſaid of ȝow !
 830 Ane chalmerer ! and waits not quhair nor how
 That ſcho is cumit, or gif that ſcho be leill,
 I have no will with ſtrangeris to dealle.
 This Lady ſaid, Fair lady, have ȝe no dreid,
 I fall keipe lawtie baith in word and deid.
 The Gudwyfe, both for rewth and for pitie,
 And for the prayer of hir commer, ſche
 Hes hir refavit into hir ſervice,
 And hir afflignit to ane [mein] office.
 The woman paſſit to hir hous againe.
 840 Meliades in ſervice did remaine
 With hir maiftres ; the quhilk unto hir ſaid,
 Now, at this tyme ȝe mane be biflie, maid,
 For unto Eſtur euntrie mone we faill ;
 If it lykis ȝow with me for to travell,
 Go beare ane fardill of ȝon wole anone
 Unto the ſchipe, quhilk readie is to gone.
 And quhen the Lady hard of this tiding,
 Scho was full glad, and ſaid, At ȝour lyking,
 To faill or go ather be land or ſea.
 850 Speid hand, the gudwyfe ſaid, for cheritie.

The wole to beir fcho helpit hir maistres,
Whill it unto the schipe all caried was.

The marineris be then all redie wer
Out of the hevin to pas ; the day was cleir,
The winde was gud, and up the faills thay drew,
Full fast thay glyd, out throw the floodis they flew,
Whill thay com to the cuntrie of Efture.

When thay aryvit into ane port full fure,
Swyth landit this Gudwyfe with hir new maid,

860 Whair thay fand cairtis, and theron hes laid
Thair merchandise, and unto Eftur toune
Thir twa ar paſt or that thay maid fojorne,
Whilk was the faireſt toune in that cuntrie,
Thair dwellis the Earle and eike the Ladie frie.

Meliades full nait and biffie was
To beir at the command of hir maistres
The woll unto hir couſigne [ſaif] ; and fyne
Hir maistres gave hir quyet discipline,
Saying, My dochter, be biffie in service,

770 My awnt the better [then] will gow chereice,
For I perchance will leave gow with hir heir,
Quhair ge may vertew and gude maners leir ;
What is gour name anone ge to me ſchaw ?
Scho ſaid, My name is Ladar, ge fall knew.
Ladar, ſcho ſaid, gour cloathes doe away,
And I fall ſumthing better gow aray.
Scho gave hir fark, kirtill, [and] hofe and ſchoune.
The Lady kneillit quhen that this was doune,
And thankit hir with sober humbill cheir,
880 And was alſe weill content withouttin weir
As ſcho was quhyllume of cloath of gold pretious ;
Of haill cloathing hir heart was full joyous.

This Gudwyfe passit to hir coufingis,
 And ather uther grate with tendernes.
 Quhen thay had spokin togidder at lafer,
 They gart belyve make redie the supper,
 And to it went with mirrie cheir and glaid.
 This Ladie stude, and to thame service maid,
 And that s̄cho did so weill and perfytlie,
 890 With fair effeir and countinance gudlie,
 That mervellit was the Maistres of this hous,
 Quhilk in her heart was mirrie and joyous,
 And speirit at hir awnt quhat [maid] s̄cho was :
 And s̄cho hir told the maneir mair and les,
 And how s̄cho was so trew and diligent
 In hir service, and humbill of intent ;
 And counfallit hir to taise hir in service,
 For s̄cho was vertewus ay at all devyfe.
 Scho hir refavit with ane glaidsum cheir,
 900 And fyne did ester ryse from the suppeir.
 Hir cummer departit, and hir leave taine hes,
 And went to bed ; and Ladar biffie was,
 And then to bed s̄cho went hirself to rest,
 As s̄cho that was with labour fore oprest ;
 Bot mikill of the nicht s̄cho did bewaill,
 That fortoun did so scharplie hir affaill ;
 Ȝit ay s̄cho thankit God and gave him gloire,
 Of all hir trubillis and hir chansis foire :
 Bot never s̄cho might forget Clariodus,
 910 Of quhais love s̄cho brint fo mervellus,
 And langit fo, that winder was to tell
 Hir fad thochtis, hir tormentis all haill.
 Unto hirselfe with mone full pitious,
 Alleace, s̄cho said, wist ȝe, Clariodus,

What travell I have endureit for gour faike,
 Full wofull waldȝe be, I undertake ;
 And how that I arayit am and clede,
 And how so purelie that I ly in bed,
 ȝe wald not at the leift all be content :

920 Bot all is welcum to me that God hes fent,
 Whom I befeik of his magnificence,
 Clariodus, to fendlȝ gow patience,
 That for my faike ȝe do not sic vengence,
 That ester may turne to gour dispilance.
 When scho was so weirrie, formurnit, and forweipit,
 With trubillit spreit and frayitlie, scho fleipit ;
 And gat up airlie be the nicht was gone,
 And maid the fyre, syne fet the pote thairon ;
 The houfe scho fwoupit and did all that effeirit.

930 Hir Maistres raife richt as the day upcleirit,
 And to the marcat [early] wald scho went
 With Ladar as ane servant diligent.
 Then [up] scho tuike ane fardell on hir heid,
 And with hir went withoutin ony pleid.
 The woll thay fauld for pryce that mycht suffice,
 And hame for it tuike uther merchandyce ;
 Syne to the denner went and maid gud cheir.

The Gudwyfe raife up efter the denneir,
 And at hir aunt scho tuik hir leave to wend
 940 Hame to hir cuntrie, doing hir commend
 To freindis all, and to this Ladar eike ;
 And scho, with countinancen bening and meike,
 Hir thankit of hir gentrice, inclynand,
 And wald hir have convoyit to sea strand :
 Bot scho wald not, bot gart hir hame returne ;
 The uther into Ingland, but fojorne,

Is went to schipe, and soune arivit thair ;
 Full oft this Ladar bad hir weill to faire.

Thus scho remainit with hir new maistres,

950 And did hir serve with so grit bissnes
 That scho hir lovit as hir dochter deire.
 Upon ane day, scho said on this maneir
 Unto hir maistres, Had I silk and gold,
 I fould make workis fair for to behold ;
 Purfis, beltis, with colourit quaife and kell,
 Whilkis wald full weill into the mercat fell,
 And quite the cost that I unto gow make.
 Je fall it have, scho said, I undertake.
 Scho bought hir purnis baith of gold and filke.
 960 And scho hes maid hir fair workis of that ilke.
 Hir maistres hes them presentit in the faire,
 And mikill mony scho tuike for thame thair.
 So at the laist amongs hir workis all,
 Full curious workis scho maid, and most royall
 War ower the lave in curiositie,
 The quhilik hir maistres grit ferlie had to see ;
 Whairfoir scho gart hir fold them in ane cloath,
 And follow hir, thocht scho sumthing was loath,
 Unto the Earleis palice of Elstur.

970 This Ladar, that was ane ladie of nurtur,
 Obeyit hir maistres, and on with hir is went.
 Unto the Countes both thay war present,
 Whilk callit on this Ladar for to se
 Hir marchandice ; and with benignitie
 Scho com and kneillit to this Ladie doun,
 And schew hir workis craftie of faschoun.
 The Countes them commendit grittumlie,
 And said, they war the fairest works alluterlie,

That s̄cho had feine into hir lyves space :
 980 So com the Earle in at the dore in cace,
 Thay raife to him and maid him reverence.
 Meliades of angellyk clemence
 Be then recoverit had hir bewtie,
 And was againe alſe lustie for to fe
 As of before, and haillit haill and found,
 Whair breer and thorne had maid hir mony wound ;
 Thairfoir grit mervell was amongs them all
 Of hir bewtie that flude imperiall
 Abouth all uther ladies that was thair,
 990 Over uther flouris as dois the lylie faire.
 For as ane thing celeſtiall to fe
 The Earle did behold hir plesand bewtie,
 He thocht s̄cho femit, and eike he thocht hir lyke
 To the Princes of all Brittane kiurike,
 The Kingis dochter, Meliades the bricht,
 Baith of hir viſage and of hir havingis richt ;
 Bot weill he trouit that Meliades
 Sould never beine arayit on fike wyfe.
 Hir ſteidfaſtlie luik to [full] oft he wald.
 1000 [And when s̄cho faw that he did hir behald,]
 Abaifit s̄cho was, and ſumthing hir declynit
 Hir bricht viſage that fo of bewtie ſchynit,
 As s̄cho that never furthie was nor peart,
 Nather in preſence nor git into defert ;
 Bot as ane innocent ever under dreid,
 Full of affurit [modeſt] womanheid ;
 Far from Dormigill in crueltie,
 Or Panthafilla in magnanimitie,
 Bot neirer Grifſhald with hir tender breit
 1010 Of ſoverane vertew, quhilk is God aneift.

When that thay had thair marchandise all fynit,
 And mirrilie collationat and dynit,
 The nobill Countes tuike at thaim hir leave,
 Gart twentie goldin baſſants to tham give.
 Grit talking was amongs them all that nicht,
 Of Ladar and of hir brave bewtie bricht.

When thay come hame hir maiftres faid hir to,
 We are rewairdit nichtilie, quoth fcho,
 All for ȝour verie craft ; Have filver heir,
 1020 Be ȝe butlar and make us mirrie cheir.

This Ladar hes refavit the mony,
 And maid hir maiftres weill to fair perdie,
 Of mychtie wyns and plesant meitis deir ;
 Syne servit hirwith womanlie effeir.
 Scho bought hir flufe of gold and filkis than,
 And with hir warkis mikill thing fcho wan.
 Now of this Ladar leave I will ane throw,
 And of Clariodus fumthing to ȝow fchow.

Clariodus in armes day by day,
 1030 So mikell he wrocht at everie hard affay,
 That wonder was to tell or ȝit to heir,
 The knightlie deidis of him that hes no peir ;
 His nobill bodie was never out of floure,
 His bloodie fword reſtit never ane houre
 Fra day being whill that the nicht apeir,
 He fo rememberis on his Ladie cleir,
 To bring the Turkis to diftruictioun,
 That he may hame more glaidlie mak him boun.
 Thair fell on him fo hard rememberance
 1040 Of his Ladie, with sic continuance,
 That nather mycht he fleip nor ȝit take reſt,
 Langourus abſence fo fairlie him oppreft ;

Ather he thocht the weiris to make fchort,
Or ellis to die among the Heathin forte.

He had ane quarter of the toune to gyde,
And ane port readie for to cast up wyde,
When that him lift, to ifche upon his fone.
On of his constabillis gart he call anone,
And bad make redie be the day was licht
1050 His companie, and in thair geir themdicht,
That be the morrow all his luftie forte
Sould redie be abyding at the port.

Thay soupit with the Conftabill that nicht,
Disporting thame with heartis glaid and licht ;
Syne tuike thair leave, and to thair bed ar gone.
He on the morne could glaidlie him dispone
Out at the porte to ifch with all his meinȝe,
And at all peices enarmit weill was he,
And ifschit furth with all his companie
1060 Upon the awfull Turkis quhair thay ly.
The trumpit blew ane weirlyk found on heicht ;
He gave his courlour with his spurris bricht,
And fchot upon the Heathin with ane fchout,
And with his speir he enterit in the route
Amongis his foes ; bot or his big lance brake
Full monie ane Sarafine lay deid on his bake.
He pullit out his fword delyverlie,
And dang the Heathin doun dispitfullie ;
He maid alse monie peices of thair theis,
1070 As dois the wricht small spaillis of the treis,
All rougently he rufschit throw [the] rout
Of womdit men ; befoir him gois the fchout.
The Caine himself hes hard the fuddan cry
Among his folk risng so hidiously,

On hors he lape and forward com in hait; The michtie Sowdane him followed fast. Clariodus was war, and weill he knew That the grit Caine com him to perfew; He ruschit upon him with ane felloun feir, 1080 And with his fword him tothe fadill scheire; His corps devidit into pairtis two; And syne unto the King he did rycht so. The Heathin wounderit upon that felloun deid, And him the way thay roumit than gud speid. The Criftein men feing his deidis mervellous, Thay cryit, **VIVE, VIVE, CLARIODUS!** Long lyfe, renoume, heich glorie and honoure Be unto the that is of warldis flour. He namit Jesus, that bliflit Saviour cleir, 1090 And forwart preiflit with ane knichtlie feir; His folks did manfullie thair foes affaill, Thair fwordis went alfe thik as fhour of haill. When the Constabill hard tyding of this thing, To feild he cam withoutin taryng, With knichtis that war valiand in feild, On hors enarmit cleir under schein; At quhais cuming monie ane Turke can die. The King of Cyprus, on the turret he, Beheld the battell furious and woode, 1100 The crewell scheding of the Heathine blode Be Criftein knichtis bauld and chevalrus, And speciallie be gud Clariodus, Wha reflit never, bot ever dang all doune, He was in fight furious as ane lyoun. The King did him commend, and ferliet of his deidis, He gart his men affend upon thair steidis,

And isch out of the toun to thair support ;
 Full manie thowfand thrang out at the port,
 As swift lyouns desyrous of thair pray ;
 1110 The Cristine men preifit to the hard affay.
 Faft heir and thair the Heathine ar dung doun
 With mortall straikis of occisioun ;
 Bot maift of all the gud Clariodus,
 Alfe fearce in fight as lyoun furious,
 His brand ay bathand in the Heathine bloode,
 So fairis he as ane tyger woode ;
 Before his forceie arme of great renoune,
 Unto the ground both hors and man gois doun ;
 His countinanc baith wyld and terribill,
 1120 His michtie corporis baith wicht and invincibill,
 Strong as ane toure againis the speiris poynt,
 Micht naine againe abake him put a joynt.
 When he thus throw the feild fo forcilie
 With sword in hand did ryd, richt ernuiflie
 The Heathine fort for him war fo adreid,
 That richt as feheip befor him [faft] they fled.
 Of cruell slaughter seisis never the ftryfe,
 Whill not ane Heathin man was left on lyfe,
 For thay war vinquist all and dungin dounie,
 1130 And finallie put to confusioun ;
 And of the Cristine diet few or none,
 So gratioufie did God for thame dispone.
 Efter the feildis great discomfitour,
 Clariodus, that mikill was of valoure,
 Is to the michtie Caineis pailȝeoun went,
 Whair infinit of thefaure importent
 Was keipit in full great quantitie,
 The number of it could no man estimie ;

Thair was of gold, and pretious flainis deir,
 1140 And rich juellis to by ane reallem weill neir,
 Quhilk he gart be turfit to the fea
 Unto his fchip ; and suith it is that he
 Amongis men gave mekill of this riches,
 For he all tyme was full of nobilnes.
 Among all uther thefaure fand he thair
 Ane tabiller of chafe richt wounder fair,
 Of gold all wrocht with pretiouſe ftonis bricht,
 Diamants, fapheiris and roobies casting licht ;
 Whilk ftonis war fo grit and ferlie deir,
 1150 As radious lampe fehyning allō cleir,
 The knightis did it prufe that war thair
 To be worth ane kingis ranfoume and maire.
 He gart ane fquyer tak it and with him go
 Unto the Conſtabillis tent withoutin ho,
 Difarmit of his helme ; and quhen that he
 Come in the tent he faid, Sir, Godȝow fe.
 The Conſtabill anſweirit and faid, Ha, gentill Knight,
 Inȝour arming thair is no fault of fight ;
 How arȝe now unarmedit now fa foume,
 1160 I traift, quoth he, the danger is all donne.
 Then lewgh thay both with joy and mirrines.
 Clariodus faid, Willȝe play at the ches.
 ȝea, faid the Lord, haveȝe ane tabilleir ?
 That fallȝe fe, I have it with me heir.
 He fchewit furth in prefence of thame all.
 And quhen the Conſtabill faw the ches royll,
 Whairof the men war all of maffie gold
 And ftonis bricht, gudlie to behold ;
 So faire of forme, and great of quantitie,
 1170 He faid it was ane royll fight to fe,

And faid, he never saw fo rich ane thing,
 The maike of it posseft no Cristien king.
 Clariodus said, Of ȝour nobilitie,
 Sir, will ȝe doe ane plefance unto me,
 As for to give this tabiller of ches
 Unto the Queine of France hir nobilnes,
 Me humblie commanding unto the King,
 And to the Queine maist lustie and bening,
 As I that am thair servitor at all

1180 Whill that I leive ; bot ȝe forgive me fall,
 That I ȝow charge fik mesage for to doe,
 The quhilk perteinis not ȝour honour to,
 I meane fik travell to undertaik for me,
 War it not to the Queinis Majestie ;
 I fould this have presentit myself trewlie,
 War not that I in Ingland fuddantlie
 Man pas, quhairfor as now ȝe me excuse.
 The Constabill faid, I will no way refuse,
 So mikill service do to ȝow as this ;

1190 And quhen ȝe lift to France to cum, I wife
 ȝe falbe welcum, dreidles, to the King,
 For he hes hard of ȝow gud comoning ;
 Diverse reports hes cumin to his eare
 Of ȝour great heighnes both in peace and weir,
 And so hes [he] refavit the tabilleir.
 Togidder as they spake on this maneir,
 The Sarafinis tents spuilȝeit thair meinge,
 Whair thay fand thesawre [in] great quantitie,
 Whilk maid thame rich for terme of all thair lyfe.

1200 Thir Lordis hes them readie maid belyve.
 The French Constabill and Sir Clariodus
 Upon thair hors affendit full joyous ;

Unto the King of Cyprus thay raid ifeir,
 The quhilk did meit them in his best maneir
 Without the ports, with royll companie,
 The joyous trumpits sounding mirrilie.
 The King hes donne the Constabill imbrace,
 And him refavit with ane mirrie face,
 Oft thanking him of his nobill support.

1210 To quhom the Constabill thir wordis did report,
 The laud heirof perteinis not to me,
 Bot only to this Knicht that \ge heir se,
 Clariodus, the rose and flour of armis,
 From his fword edge micht helpe no harnis ;
 He was the haill caus of the discomfitoure,
 Nixt God our forceie campioun in the stoure,
 Give him the laud, give him the thanks always,
 Of victorie and Turkis haill suppryse ;
 His nobill deidis giving great commend,
 1220 Saying, But dreid, unto the wardenis end,
 Thair is no Knicht onlie with his hand
 That hes donne half the deidis valiand
 In all his tyme that \ge have donne this day,
 Thairfor ane honour \ge have conquift for ay ;
 I wonder nocht thocht \ge be val \ge and,
 For \ge ar cum, as I [do] understand,
 On baith the sydis of ryght nobill bluid,
 And thairfor, Sir, on neid \ge mon be gud.
 Clariodus said, Sir, withouttin dreid,
 1230 \ge gif to me more name than thair is deid ;
 Bot onlie half alse far as \ge report,
 Richt weill befet I wald think [me] at schorte.
 The King put him betwixt thir Knichtis two,
 And altogidder to Bruland can thay go,

And enterit in the Kingis palice fair,
 Full great triumph and feasting [alſe] was thar.
 The Queine and eike hir dochter com to hall,
 With monie luftrie ladie gent and small.
 It war ane want thair courfis for to tell.

1240 Clariodus, that is of knightheid well,
 Was cherifit fo and feaſtit on ſik wyſe,
 Long war to ſchaw the maner and the gylfe.
 When thay had dynit, thay all to chalmer wente.
 The King, the Queine, with luftrie ladies jent,
 Thair all the day did dance and make gud ſport,
 The ſeafoun war ower prolix to report.
 When even aproachit, to ſupper then they go,
 Thair royll fair as now I will pas fro.
 Efter the ſupper, on the famine wyſe,
 1250 I can gow nocht the maner all devife
 As thay diſport, carrell, dance and ſing,
 Lordis, ladies, and luftrie knichtis ging.
 Clariodus requyerit was to dance ;
 He him excuſit with fair countinane,
 Bot all for nocht, excufe availl nicht none ;
 With uther lordis he to the dance is gone,
 So verie weill and manerlie withall,
 Pryſit he was with ladies grit and small,
 And with the compagnie everilk wicht.
 1260 Thay thus diſport quhile mides of the nicht ;
 Syne everilk lord and ladie leave hes taine
 Full courteſlie, and to thair Innis are gaine.
 The King hadfonnes that war richt fair and ging,
 That loved Clariodus abone all uther thing ;
 With him they ar to Innis gane infeir,
 And all to make him compagnie and cheir ;

The Conflabill eik him chereft tenderlie,
As he that was baith vailȝeand and worthie.

Thus, day by day, thair is no more to tell,

1270 In nobill joy and mirrines thay dwell
Whill that awcht dayis war all gone outrycht ;
Syne tuike thair leave to pas everilk wicht,
First at the King, syne at his Lordis eike,
Syne at the Queine and at hir Ladies meike.
At thair departing wofull was the King,
For he thocht that his luftie dochter ȝing
Sould have beine waddit with Clariodus,
Thocht fortoun wald not tholl it to be thus.

The King maid to the Conflabill instance
1280 For to commend him to the King of France,
And thanke him of his help and gude supplie ;
Syne thefawre gart in full grit quantitie
Deliver unto him before he went,
Imbracing [him] ryght hartlie in intent.
Ather from uther tuike thair leave anone.
Syne the King tuike Clariodus allone,
And said, Fair Sir, commend me to the King,
And thanke him of his nobill supporting
Againis my foes ftrong in battell ;

1290 And eik I thank ȝow of ȝour grit travell
That ȝe have maid, cuming in this cuntrie ;
Syne of ȝour nobill helpe and gud supplie,
Bot quhais vailȝeand deidis and chevalrie
We hade not lichtlie gottin victorie.
Grite giftis profferit to him the King,
Bot he thairof as thane wald [tak] no thing.
And quhen the King hes feine [that] it is so,
He gart ane fquyer for ane palfray go,

Quhilk as the snow in colour was all quhyt,
 1300 And of fassoun wounder donne perfyte,
 Both meane and taill did of [the] bricht gold schyne,
 In wrold men deimit thair was none so fyne.
 Then said he to Clariodus, Sen ge
 Naine uther giftis will refave of me,
 This horse I give geow of a gentill kynd,
 That ge may [ever] have me in geour mynd.
 Full courtesie then thankit he the King,
 And said, Sir, I am geouris in all thing
 Whill that I leive, so wyfelie God me speid,
 1310 As I that trew falbe in word and deid
 To geow and geouris for now and ever more ;
 Geour Henes keip the michtie King of glore.
 So thay departit with tender imbracing,
 For verie pitie weipit than the King,
 And ryght so [forelie] did Clariodus,
 For to depart thay war so dolorus.
 At all the Court thair leave hais taine thir two,
 With thair meinge and to thair hors they go ;
 And then ascendit all with ane purpose,
 1320 Thay raid unto the port of Carrados,
 Whair that thay fand [thair] schippis all redie,
 The marineris thay wrocht full biffilie.
 The Constabill now at Clariodus
 Hes taine his leave with wordis gratiouss,
 To cum in France requyring him sa fast,
 So that this Lord hes grantit at the last,
 His aquentance to make with the [gude] King,
 To him anone promifit he this thing.
 When the Constabill his leave hes taine thus,
 1330 He bad adew to Sir Clariodus,

And enterit into his barke, and that anone,
 And all his folkis ar to thair schipis gone.
 The air was cleir, the wind was verie gud,
 They drew up saillis, and sped them ouer the flude.

Clariodus gart furth ane barke hir drefe
 All full of nobill tresour and riches
 That he had won into the Caines tent ;
 Unto his Father in Eftur he it fent,
 And bad commend him to his Father thair,
 1340 Schawing to them at lenth of his weiffair ;
 Syne enterit into his schip richt haistilie,
 And to thair schipis went all his companie ;
 Thay drew up saillis sweith, and furth thay glyd
 Atowre the floodis that ar baith roume and wyd.
 Now ceise I of Clariodus ane throw,
 And of the Constabill sumthing will schew.

The Constabill of France aryvit sweith
 Unto the port of Rowan, glaid and blyth,
 And went to Parice with all his folks in feir,
 1350 And to the King is gone with mirrie cheir.
 The King richt glaid was of his hame cuming,
 And maid to him richt heartlie welcuming,
 And speirit of his tydingis and his fair.
 Be richt report he told him les and maire
 Of all the weiris schortlie for to faine,
 And how the Caine of Tartarie was flaine,
 And of his hōst the haill disfroctioun ;
 And of the valiantnes and grite renoune
 Of the maist worthie and wicht Clariodus,
 1360 And of his deidis worthie and chevellrus,
 And how his only manheid and his micht
 Monie ane tyme pat the Turkis to flicht,

And how he flew the Caine and put him doun,
 And pat his folkis to thair disfuccioun,
 Whairthrow the mortall weiris tuike ane end,
 And how he bad him to his Grace commend ;
 And how the King of Cyprus worthines
 Bad him commend him to his Nobilnes,
 Him thankit of his folkis and supplie,

1370 And how that he promifit for to be
 His in all thing, and stand in his quarrell,
 Richt as he did to him in stong batell.

Blyth was the King quhen he hard this tyding ;
 Bot of this Knicht he ferliet ouer all thing,
 Throw quhais deidis the Turkis war diftroyit,
 Of him to hear his heart was fo joyit,
 That he never irkit of him to speir,
 His face, his fassoun, his statur and maneir.
 He tuike him in ane chalmer him allone,

1380 And speirit at him uther tydings anone.
 And he tauld furth as he requyrit ay ;
 ȝit, Sir, he said, I have fum thing to say,
 This nobill Knicht of quhilk I [do] ȝow tell,
 The verie flour of chevelrie and well,
 Hes sent ane gudlie present to the Queine,
 I wald anone that it war with hir feine.
 First I will se it, said the King ; and thane
 To fech this tabeller he sent ane man.
 Sone it was brocht, presentit to the King,

1390 Quha it beheld, considering in all thing
 Of it the valour and the [wondrous] micht ;
 He said, Forsuith it is the fairest fight,
 And the maist pretious of the quantitie,
 That in my lyfe I ever saw with ey.

He sent anone to chalmer for the Queine,
 Wha com with all hir ladies fair and scheine,
 Whom the Constabill faluft hes, and fyne
 Hes tauld hir all the cace or he wald fyne ;
 Scho luikit on the royall ches of gold,
 1400 That pretious was and luftie to behold,
 And it commendit wonder grittumlie,
 And so did all the ladyes that stude by.
 Then said the Queine, I thanke the gentill Knicht,
 That hes me fend this thefaure of sic micht,
 Forlith he was no wratch I dar [it] tell,
 That hes pairtit with so rich ane jewell.
 And fyne confidering, said the nobill King,
 That he [ȝow] never saw in his leving,
 And ȝit to me his name [it] is unknawin.
 1410 The Constabill said, With honour it falbe schawin,
 He is to name callit Clariodus,
 Knicht of this warld maist worthie and famous,
 Sone to the nobill Earle of Efturland.
 Then said the King, He man be vailȝeand,
 For he is cumit of nobill parentell,
 His Father the Count know I verie well ;
 I have him feine into this Court repaire,
 Under the sone I know non gudlier.
 In all maner and wyser nor is he,
 1420 The better alwaysis his Sone neidis most be ;
 And eik of Sir Clariodus himfell
 Out of Ingland full oft have I hard tell,
 And of his manlie bewtie and vertew,
 Now find I weill that thay said of him trew,
 Whairfor, certes, attoure all [uther] thing,
 I long to have him in my Court dwelling.

The Constabill said, He hes promifit me,
Within schort tyme in this land for to be.

That wald I, quoth the King, sa God me save,

1430 Then his aquantance dreidles I fall have.

When they had long tyme commonit in that place,
The Queine gart put the chaker in that cace,

And gart ane ladie take it up anone,

And fyne unto hir chalmier is scho gone.

Thame now in France in joy we let remaine,

And speike we of Clariodus againe.

Clariodus did all his biflins

To gar the mariners them speid and dres

To land alfweith with all thair faillis bent,

1440 Of his Ladie sic thochts can him torment ;

The more that he aproachit to the land,

In heat desyre he was ay [more] birnand

His Ladie for to se : and then belyve

On Ingland coast he did laiflie aryve,

Neir by the toun that reallie is wallit,

Belvilladoun quhilk to name was callit ;

Thair landit he and all his chevalrie,

And to the toun thay raid richt royallie.

Clariodus, as he raid throw the streit,

1450 None of his auld aquantance could he meit ;

In all the toun no kynd of man he saw

That he was aquantit with or did knaw ;

He saw so monie faces that war strange,

He dread full fair that thair had beine sum change

Into the Court ; quhairfor he mervell hade ;

Thay fled him ay and war for him adred,

For thay war of Sir Thomas inputing,

The toun to rewle and put in governing.

At his Innis this Lord [then] lichtit doun,
 1460 And hes gart herberie his folkis in the toun,
 All bot his fellowis quhilkis ever abaid
 With him st ill quhidder he ȝeid or raid.
 His host him helfit sum deill hevilie.
 Perseveng hes Clariodus thairby,
 Tuik in his mynd ane fiddant trew confait
 That sum tratour had wrocht a fore debait
 Againis him, bot most was in his thocht
 Meliades, if hir had aillit ocht.
 Full fiddantlie to changing can his hew,
 1470 The bluide alsweith intill his face it schein ;
 Of misbeleife the stound strouke to his heart,
 That in his breift it trublit him fore inuart ;
 Unto his chalmer sadlie he is gone.
 And to his host then cumin is anone
 Ane merchand of the toun, speiring thus,
 If he had spokin with Clariodus.
 Na, said the host, I dar not with him speike,
 For wo my heart was abill for to breke
 When I him saw ; bot he hes persaving,
 1480 Throw my sad cheir he tuik evill conforting.
 The merchand said, Methinke that gud it war,
 That to my Lord we passit both in feir.
 The host consentit, that Bartane heicht to name.
 This Allane was ane man mikill of fame,
 And monie ane day was mair of the toun ;
 Bot from his heicht Sir Thomas pat him doun.
 When unto chalmer cuming war thir two,
 This Allane was in heart full hevie and wo,
 Who helfit him with teiris distelling.
 1490 Clariodus persavit this in all thing,

Allane, ge ar full welcum unto me ;
 What new tydingis, my frind, [fra Court] bring ge ?
 Now tell how fairis the Kingis nobilnes,
 The Queine and hir goungh dochter the Princes ?
 I can not in Court, said Allane, thir monie day,
 Whairfor the maner I can not tell perfay ;
 All that gour Father pat in the Kingis cervice,
 Sir Thomas hes put out on felloun wayis,
 And me he hes exonerit among the leave
 1500 Of the office that I had wount to have ;
 The King he rewells and gydis as he lift,
 Whairthrow the realme is hereit and opreft ;
 No man may cum into the Kings prefence,
 Bot throw his gyding and his gud plesance ;
 And ane thing, Sir, and worl of all the leave
 That he hes donne, thairfor the Feind him have,
 Be false report and divillisch treafoun eike
 He hes gart take Meliades the meike,
 The Kingis dochter and his heare also,
 1510 Withoutin caus and cruellie hir flo,
 And, fy ! alleace ! murderit hir foulie,
 Into ane nicht without onie mercie,
 With cruell churllis murdreifst cruellie,
 The trewth I may not tell [gown] for pitie.
 When that Clariodus hard this tyding,
 The crampe of death did [faist] to his heart thring ;
 He gave ane figh, and faid, but wordis mo,
 Ha, Ladie myne, and ar ge endit so !
 The fword of sorrow gave him sic a wound
 1520 Unto the heart with sik ane deidlie stound
 He nicht not suffer it, bot dounhe fell
 So pitioufle that sorrow war to tell ;

Unto the pavement as deid duscht he,
 Hispaill visage was gaistlie for to se.
 Pallexis up stert stoune, [and] cryit Ha!
 For ower grit wo he wist not quihat to sa.
 The Knichtis stoure and burgis twa [than] ran,
 And liffit up the paill and deidlie man,
 And on ane bed him laid or thay wald ho,
 1530 And with thair handis schuikhe him to and fro,
 And stoune his teith oppinit with ane knyfe ;
 Bot still he lay [thair] deid as out of lyfe,
 And nothing lyke from daith [for] to revert ;
 Whairof his fellowis sic forrow tuik in heart,
 Thay maid sik duill that never hard was maire,
 Never sicht thay saw grevit them [sa] fair.
 Sik forrow maid Pallexis and his brother,
 That naine of them micht counfall gif to other.
 In this estait lang lay this jentill Knicht ;
 1540 Bot the grit King of glorie and of micht,
 That ever is wicht quhaever be waike or feik,
 He wald not fuffer of his mercie meike
 Him that was gentill ay and merciabill
 In sik ane wyfe to end fo miserabill.
 So at the laft he out of sound abraid
 Alse wode of cheir, and luikit rycht affrayd ;
 He saw ane window and wald have lappin out ;
 His fellowis them assenblit him about,
 Withholding him among them tenderlie,
 1550 Him comforting with wordis most heartlie.
 He paifit then the chalmer up and doun,
 Melancolike, alse furious as ane lyoun ;
 His eine thay brint and flamit as ane gleid,
 Desyring to revenge the traitorheid

Of the maist faikles murder and felloune,
 Done to this innocent Ladie be trefoun.
 Alleace ! he said, quhat fall I do or say,
 My warldis joy is [from me] reft for ay ;
 O now quhair fall I go or quhair fall I ryd,
 1560 Quhair fall I walke at evin or morrow tyd !
 Whairto for sleip fould I to bedis go,
 Or quhairto ryfe, I waits of nocht bot wo,
 Or quhairto leive I, [now] thus myne allone,
 When all my cumpanie is fra me gone ;
 O Death, cum slay me cative in distres,
 That never fall have ane day of mirrines !
 Why lefts my bodie, seing my heart is flaine,
 Fairweill for ever all eardlie joy againe !
 And this he said with fik ane pitious cheir,
 1570 It was ane paine him for to fe or heir ;
 And sorrow him tormentit fo fellounlie,
 Monie ane tyme he cryit God mercie,
 Have mercie, Lord, that [wifelie] hes me wrocht,
 Syne with thy daith fo deir thow hes me bocht,
 That I fall not in desperatioun ;
 Thy woundis fyve be my salvatioun
 That I do nocht that may my soul [eer] tyne ;
 I ask the mercie, fweit Redemer myne,
 Now of my greif and my impatience,
 1580 Who am bereft of all intelligence,
 And can no refoun have nor sufferance
 Whill daith upon me do his utterance ;
 And eike have mercie on gon fair Ladie,
 Sen I hir lovit for no villanie,
 As for the cryme scho stervit ane innocent,
 And pitoullie with churlis all to rent,

And murtherit as ane theif without a judge,
 Be thow hir ressalt, succur and refuge ;
 And let thy woundis be for hir remedie,
 1590 That for hir finnis oppinit war so reid ;
 Among thy angellis refave hir in thy joy,
 As thow that ar of mercie Prince and Roy.

With that the teiris geid out of his eine,
 With ficheis deip, and fobbis ay betweine,
 That none on lyfe micht se him nor behold,
 Bot he anone fould weipe thoch he not wold,
 Suppose his heart war harder nor the stome.

His fellowis foure maid ane pitouise mone
 For him in secreit [wyfe] ; bot not the les,

1600 With fuggerit wordis of great humbilnes,
 Thay comfortit him, and oft bad him eit :
 Bot he so fillit was with dolour grite,
 No meit he wald ifay ; bot bad that thay
 Sould to thair supper go without delay.

When they had soupit all, thame gart he call,
 And faid, Go fende furth to our frindis all
 In this kinrick, both Prince, Earle, Lord and Knight
 That lovis me, or in my quarrell richt
 Will make defence, and pray thame tenderlie,

1610 Into all haft that thay will make redie
 To cum with all their nobill chevalrie
 In my supplie ; for now [that] verilie,
 I never thinke flesch to eit nor wyne to drinke,
 Whill that I make gon Tratour to forthinke
 That ever he trefoun wrocht on fike wayis,
 And quhill the daith of fair Meliades
 Revengit be, that all the warld fall heir.

Then Allan faid to him on this maneir,

My Lord, *ȝ*our charge I fall fulfill alway ;
 1620 Bot if *ȝ*e wairne thoſe Prinfis, as *ȝ*e ſay,
 Sir Thomas will get wit, and will evaid :
 Bot will *ȝ*e [now] my counfall doe, he ſaid,
*ȝ*e fall cum to him [richt] without wairning,
 In that fame place quhair he is with the King.
 In the toun of Clarans quhairin he remains,
 Ouklie we carie hay in carts and wains,
 And I my ſelf fall hay have to the toun ;
 Whairfor I wald [that] threttie men war boun,
 In cairtis cloſit [all] weill privilie,
 1630 All ower with hay coverit quyetlie,
 And [ſo] no man will ſtope [thame] quhill that thay
 Be went within the gettis, quhair *ȝ*e may
 Ane buſchment have a litill *ȝ*ow beſyde,
 That haſtilie may efter them in ryd.
 When he hes hard him on this wayis conclude,
 He thankit him, and ſaid the way was gud ;
 And bad all ſould be donne as he [had] ſaid
 Againe the morne, and all thus reddie maid.
 He callit on his luſtennantis than,
 1640 And bad thay ſould be redie everie man
 Neir by the toun of Clarans by the day
 In the wode fyld, and hold them quyetlie
 Whill that thay hard thame cry within the carts,
 And then to ſpeid them [out] with mirrie hearts.
 When this was ſaid, they went all to [their] bed.
 Clariodus him leinit doune all cled,
 All nicht bewailling hir death pitiouſlie,
 That was fo fair, fo gud and womanlie :
 Bot up he raife full long before the day
 1650 With his foure fellowis, doing thame aray

In weirlyk weidis ; and fyne went haifilie
 To Allanis Innis, quhair all war maid redie.
 Clariodus and his fellowis anone,
 But longer tarie ar to ane cart all gone,
 With utheris whom thay lykit best to have,
 Ane cartar come and furth [the gait] thame drave ;
 The uther cairt [then] fillit was also
 With men of armis, and thus furth thay go
 To the toun of Clarains be the licht of day,
 1660 Whair the draw brig foun drawin have thay ;
 The port was oppin, they enterit fuddently,
 With ane grit noyis raisit up the cry ;
 With that the buschment brake with [richt] gud speid ;
 Clariodus affendit on his steid,
 And to the palice raid or he wald ho ;
 Pairt of his folkis commandit he to go
 The toun to search, and ay quhair thay finde
 Sir Thomas' men, in prifloun them to binde.
 Clariodus then [maist] unfrayitlie
 1670 In palice enterit with all his chevalrie,
 And in that chalmer quhair that was the King,
 With him Sir Thomas, not witting of this thing ;
 For had he wittin that Sir Clariodus
 Had landit beine and com fo neir as thus,
 He wald have fled away if that he micht.
 Amongs them enterit hes this nobill Knicht
 And lawlie on his knie salust the King
 With honour dew, and with gud blifing ;
 Syne went and hynt Sir Thomas be the hand,
 1680 Saying, O trator false and diffaveand,
 Thankis to God that now is cumit the day
 That with thy trasoun thow no [way] chape may,

That thou hes said, ather fall thou preive,
 Or it fall turne the to thy grit mifcheive.
 Syne to his fellowis four gave him in cure,
 Commanding them that thay shuld keip him fure.
 Syne to the King he said on this maneir,
 Sir, for this caus I [now] am cumit heir,
 This curfit tratour with his fellounie,

1690 Of verie malice movet and invie,
 Hes wrocht of his awin imaginatioun,
 Be false and feindlie conspiratioun,
 [Sic] wayis gow and gour bloode to distroy,
 That he micht of this regioun ring as Roy ;
 Gour Dochter innocent he hes put to deid
 Full faikleflie but mercie or remeid ;
 Wha falflie leit on me, as prove I fall
 On onie He this day that is mortall
 That will or dar abyde at his opinioun ;

1700 Thair is not thrie into this regioun
 That will mantine his quarrell or defend
 Bot I fall give him battell to the end
 Againis them all at onis myne alone,
 Or with them fyndrie feight [fall] on be on ;
 Whairfor gar call him heir befor gow now,
 And speir if he the treafoun will avow.
 The King him callit ; and then Clariodus,
 In prefence of them all, said to him thus,
 Sir Thomas, take gow choife of thingis two,

1710 Ather gourself in battell with me to go
 And twa with gow the best [that] ge can wail,
 [And curft be he that in the fight shall fail,]
 Or prove that ge have said befor the King,
 Than, if ge doe, I merite punisching.

Then this Tratur trimblit [baith] fute and hand,
 And faid, I will not into batell stand,
 I me confes of all this false treafoune,
 I have deservit daith at schort fermoun ;
 My Lady I gart faikleflie be schent,
 1720 For trewth to daith echo is gone innocent ;
 Thir letteris with my handis all I wraite.

Then all the Court at onis maid regrate
 For the ȝoung Princes, fair Meliades,
 All causles put to daith on this wayis ;
 Thay gart the letteris thair all [be] present,
 Causing Sir Thomas wryte incontinent,
 To se if that the wrritis lyke war : thane
 This ilk Sir Thomas [for] to wryte begane ;
 Quhilk wryting so lyke was to the uther,
 1730 That name of theme nicht be knownen quhidder :
 Then with ane voice thay cryit all at onis,
 Ha, birne the cruell Tratur, fell and bonis !

Clariodus upon his kne sat doune,
 And askit justice of the deid felloun.
 The King maid mone, that forrow was to lie,
 For hir that was so full of grite bewtie,
 So full of vertew and of gentilnes,
 He wold have flaine himself in his madnes
 War nocht the Lordis was him belyde ;
 1740 He raif his hair and pitioufie he cryed.
 To wryte ȝow all his forrow and his cair,
 It foould me occupy ane long day and mair ;
 He fell on kneis before Clariodus,
 Saying to him thir wordis pitious,
 Let not ȝon Tratur first to his deid go,
 Bot beginne at me and with ȝour sword me flo,

That most have deservit for to die ;
 All princes may exampill take of me,
 Thus unadvysit to distroy thair blood,
 1750 Or than advysit, counsall thairto conclude ;
 Why let \ge me in wo thus liveing heir,
 On me doe furth \gtrsim our deid, schrinke for no feir.
 With that he raif his awin hair pitioullie,
 And frake him self wounder fellounlie.
 Clariodus alswaith tuike up the King
 Into his armis, thus to him saying,
 Sir, \ge foould nocht fit on kneis to me,
 Bot unto God, to him failȝeit [have] \ge
 And to the leidis of \gtrsim our regioun,
 1760 For \ge distroyit \gtrsim our successioun,
 Thair onelie Princes, and \gtrsim our richteous aire,
 That quhyllum was countit [fa] wyse and fair.
 The King commandit that his feigis royll
 Sould be renewit, wher the pepill all
 Micht fe the mortall caſtigatioun
 Of this Sir Thomas, for his false treafoun ;
 At his command quhilk foun removit was
 And in the grit court fat of his palice :
 And fyne commandit he the burgisſis two,
 1770 Clariodus' hof and Allan alſo,
 To make ane oppin proclamatioun
 Of all things [to be done] with trumpit found,
 That all the peipill micht of Clarains toun
 Cum and fe juſtice donne of his treafoun ;
 And bad them bring the burriours alſo.
 Thir two, as than commandit, furth thay go,
 As he bad doe, anone the famine ways,
 And maid ane scaffald upon heicht to ryſe.

Sir Thomas callit was in judgement,
 1780 And with ane sife fyllit incontinent ;
 Syne damnit to be drawin ilke lith from uther,
 In prefence of King Philipon his brother ;
 Of quhilk was maid ane executioun
 Upon the scaffold, the peipill environ :
 The peipill nicht not lichtlie numberit be,
 Whilk thrang so thike the maner for to sie.
 The King in judgment sat [exaltit] thair
 Whill justifit Sir Thomas' folkis war
 And all that gave him counfall or supplie
 1790 To doe that fellowoun deid of crueltie.

[This done,] unto Belvelladoun thay raid,
 Into the Court grit hevines was maid.
 Clariodus raid speiking with the Queine,
 Betwix quhom [ay] grit forrow nicht be feine ;
 When they spake of Meliades the bricht
 With weiping all to blindit was thair fight.
 The King alsweith is enterit in the toun,
 Whair he reposit, and quhyllum maid sojorne
 For to take ordour with everilk officer
 1800 That Sir Thomas had put from office thair.
 Then all was wrocht and endit on this wyse,
 And enterit all agane to thair service.
 Clariodus his leive tuike at the King,
 As he had long thocht of his taryng ;
 The cuntrie that fum tyme [fyne] he thocht fair,
 And had in it sic plesour to repair,
 Than thocht he all was bair and barren wildernes,
 So far his heart was bund in hevines
 That in that land he nicht not eit nor sleip,
 1810 Bot weipand ay with fadest fischis deip.

The King faid, Sir Clariodus, I fe
 That ȝe na longer lift to byd with me ;
 ȝit pitie this realme, gentill Knicht,
 That in sike perrell standis day and nicht,
 For fault of ane the peipill to convoy ;
 And ȝe depart, fairweill fra me all joy ;
 ȝour Father eik, efter ȝour [hame] cuming,
 I wait will enter no more in this rigne,
 Then it is put cleine to distruictioun :

1820 Thairfor I make ȝow supplicatioun,
 That ȝe disdaine not for to byde with me,
 Whill that ȝour Father cum into this cuntrie.
 Clariodus wald not him grant, for quhy,
 He trouit never to cum againe fithly,
 And for to heicht ane thing and keip it nocth
 Was never in his mynd, deid nor thocht ;
 Whairfor he wald not grant for to abyde.
 The peipill cryit all on everie syd,
 Ha, gentill Knicht, and flour of nobilnes,

1830 Leave never the King into his heich distres ;
 Bot rew on him, for his faike hes ȝow bocht,
 For he to leive langer fall he nocth,
 For sorrow and langour efter ȝe be gone.
 When that this Knicht hard thair pitious mone,
 Confort ȝow , Sir, he faid, for Godis faike,
 And I fall doe fo, heir I undertake,
 That pleasit ȝe falbe, [as] I weill wait ;
 Now heir my brother that Palexis heicht,
 And eik my coufing Amandur his brother,

1840 I fall them two leave with ȝow and no uther,
 Albeit I war full laith them to forgo ;
 Bot ȝit with ȝow thay fall byd baith the two,

As thay that manheid and discretioun
Hes for to rewle the cuntrie up and doun.

This being finit, schortlie for to tell,
Clariodus, that is of knichtheid well,
His leave hes takine baith at King and Queine,
With wofull teares birfing out of his eine ;

He tuike his leave at the merchand alfo,
1850 And at his gud hof, thanking oft thay two
Of thair gud service and thair bissines ;
And fyne at all his freindis more and les :
Bot quhen anone the pepill saw him ryde
Out throw the toun, full pitifullie thay cryed,
Fair weill, our confort now and all our joy !

Fair weill, our cheif protector out of noy !
Fair weill, the gentilleft Knicht and maist worthie
In all the wrold that beine aluterlie !

Out of the toun he haistilie did ryd,

1860 For clamour of the pepill him befyd ;
And quhen he was ane myle out of the toun,
He and his fellowis thair lichtit [tham] doun ;
To tham he said, My frindis traift and deir,
I gow reverence, and oft thankis gow heir
Of gour service and nobill cumpanie,
I me commend to gow maist hartfullie,
Now mon I pase from gow, and nothing wote
If I to gow will cum againe or not :
Bot ge fall not be dispurvayit at all,

1870 My Father in this cuntrie soune cum he fall,
And traift richt weill [that] not forget fall I
To gar my Father compleit finaly
Gour mariagis, be ge not adred ;
My frind Palexis, ge fall Cedar wed,

Whom *ȝe* have handfaſt; and Amandur fall get
 The King of Spaines ſifter Mandonet;
 And *ȝe* that ar my uther fellowis two
 Sall have Barronis dochteris alſo
 Into our land, quhilk neir ar of our blude ;
 1880 And feing that kyndnes ever amongis us flude,
 Now let us keip it till our latter day,
 And fe that *ȝe* luife uther rycht weill ay :
 And *ȝe*, my eufings two, over all thing,
 Exerce your office and please weill your King ;
 Amongs the peipill conqueis *ȝe* lik name,
 That your frindis have no reproch nor blame.
 With this, into his armis he did tham fange,
 And then begouth fik weiping them amang,
 That pitie it had beine for to behold.
 1890 Ane efter uther he in his armes fold,
 And kiffit them, bot nicht no wirdis fay ;
 Syne lap upon his hors and raid his way.
 Still thay remainit efter he was gone,
 Sore weiping and bewailling thame allone ;
 Thay wifit he wald go walke in wildernes,
 And never thairefter ane joyous day poffes ;
 Whairfor thair painfull forrow and thair cheir
 War all to long for to byd on to heir.
 Thir four full fadlie to the toun thay went,
 1900 And he as woode man fpurrit ower the bent,
 As he that wifit not quhair to ryd or go,
 His breiſt was fo oprefit with inwart greif and wo.
 Clariodus raid furth on this maneir,
 Ane grit forreſt quhill he aproachit neir ;
 Then ſped he him with all the haift he may,
 For doubt they ſould have floppit him the way.

So in the forrest happinit him to meit
 Ane Palmer cumand, quhilk did on him greit,
 And of his almes asked him, and faid,
 1910 That felloun briggandis him dispulȝeit had.
 Clariodus faid, Father, for certaine,
 The halie gaitis that ȝe wound to gang
 Will not alway let ȝow dispurvayit be ;
 ȝe fall have all my cloathes, and gif me
 ȝour clothes againe, and tak myne betwine.
 Glaid was the Pilgrime this ilk change to feine.
 Clariodus put on the Palmers weid,
 And he gave him his cloathes and his steid.
 The Palmer faid, My Lord, I weill persave,
 1920 That feiknes or melancholie ȝe have ;
 Have patience in distres for ony thing,
 For naturallie the wrold is ay changing,
 And glad joy cumis nixt adverstie
 Be cours of fortounis mutabilitie.
 Clariodus than thankis to him maid,
 Saying, God grant it be as ȝe have faid.
 Thus went he furth in palmer weid allone,
 Out throw the forrest quhill the day was gone ;
 The nicht aproachit and he abydis thair,
 1930 Baith wind and raine [then] dang on him richt fair,
 That he in hafart was to lose his lyfe.
 As day begouth and nicht away did drive,
 He paicet furth, and fand ane small paſſage,
 Quhilk had him throw the wood to ane village ;
 He enterit, alking almons for Godis faike ;
 Sum gave him pairt, and sum did him forſaik,
 And bad him go and wirke, for he was wicht,
 And fair of persoune thocht he war ane Knicht ;

Weill tailȝeit of his bodie up and doun,
 1940 They bade him go [and] thrysche in everie toun.
 Clariodus then sped him bisfilie
 Whill he come to the sea, and tuik harbrie
 Into ane hevining place where schipes were,
 And redie for to faill in cuntries feir.
 Ane was to go in Eftur land; whairfore
 He haifilie lies paſlit to the fchore,
 And speirit at the marineris in hy,
 Gif thay wald tak him in thair cumpanie.
 Thay faid, If that he could make gud fervice,
 1950 Thay wald refave him into gudlie wayis.
 Then hes he faid, no worke he wald refuse,
 That onie uther servitor did use.
 The Skipper faid, Go let him in anone,
 For he is manfull big of brane and bone ;
 He feames to be na balleit in the how,
 He fall weill hald ane anker or ane tow,
 To mak our windis [for] to go on force,
 And he will draw about lyke ony hors ;
 To dicht our meit, full weill gainis ȝon feir,
 1960 To lift ane mekill caldroun on the fyre.
 Up gois the faillis, the schip gois to the flude,
 And cuike thay maid Clariodus the gud ;
 He dicht thair meit, and maid tham gud fervice
 In humbill maner, and in gudlie wyſe.
 The wind was fair, the schip was gud be faill,
 The marineris wicht and biffie in travell ;
 To Eftur land aprochit thay belyve,
 And in ane port faiffie did aryve.
 The merchands unto land paſt everie one,

1970 Clariodus to land is with thame gone,
 And at the mariners his leave he tuike,
 Quhilk wald have feit him to have beine thair cuike.
 He faid, Frindis, I mon to Andromage,
 Quhilk till compleit it is a fair voyage ;
 Whairfor have me excusit for to gone.
 Thay bad him cloathes, bot he refavit none.
 He tuike his leave ; and thay bad God him gyde.
 Unto the toun of Eftur neir befyd
 He dreslit him to go with bissines,
 1980 Whair that his Father and his Mother was.
 Clariodus furth holdeth but fojorne,
 Whill he com neir the fuburbs of the toune ;
 Beholding [all] the toune and the castell,
 He laid him doun agroufe befyde ane well,
 And thair he maid the faireft regrating,
 That nicht be hard of ony creatour leving,
 Saying, Alleace, O toune ! O castell and citie !
 Baith may $\text{\textit{ze}}$ ban that ilk nativitie
 Of that divellisch Sir Thomas the tratour,
 1990 Throw quhom to $\text{\textit{zow}}$ fall cum sic [fad] dollour.
 O Count of Eftur, $\text{\textit{ze}}$ and $\text{\textit{zour}}$ Ladie,
 What wofull painis and melancholie
 Sall to $\text{\textit{zow}}$ cum, quhen that $\text{\textit{ze}}$ know all cleir
 [How that for greif your Son is dying heir !]
 How it is falline, and the curſit chance !
 Thairwith he tuike sik ane [grit] displifance,
 He brift all out of teiris pitiouſlie,
 Of his unfortoun pleinand wofullie,
 And maid the hardeſt lamentatioun
 2000 That ever was hard in ony regioune.

Bot loe, as fortoun turnis fo quyetly,
 Unto this well thair come [all] suddenly
 Meliades, hame water for to bring,
 And saw this wofull man on grouffe lying,
 Bewailling in distrefe fo pitioullie,
 That to behold this Ladie thocht ferlie ;
 So him to heir with monie fob and grone,
 It wald have thirllit ony heart of stone ;
 And quhill fcho him can [thus] behald and se,
 2010 Scho for him tuike in heart so great pitie,
 For verie rewth fcho weipit and was wo,
 Saying, My frind, why do \ge \gour self flo?
 Or quhat ar \ge , that thus fo pitioullie
 \gour self demainis thus with melancolie ?
 For Godis faike take \gour sum patience,
 And to \gour self do never fike offence.
 Full faine fcho wald have comfortit him sum wayis,
 For fcho was haly, cheritabill and wyse.
 His heid then hes he raisit upon loft,
 2020 To se quha gave to him thir wordis soft,
 That confort him upon so meike maneir ;
 Bot all to blindit was his eine so cleir,
 That he not redilie nicht elpie hir face,
 Saying, I thank \gour Sister, bot alleace !
 How that it standid with me if that \ge knew,
 I traist \ge wald upon my painis rew,
 Or ony in warld that is now on lyve ;
 Or if thay wist how that with daith I fryve,
 Or knew the caus quhairfor I thus compleine,
 2030 For to have mercie rewth wald thame constraine
 On me that is the forrowfullest wicht

In warld that leives under Phebus bricht.
 This Ladie said, My freind, treft *ȝe* [me] weill,
 To ony wicht if that *ȝe* list reveale
ȝour infortoun, and *ȝour* misaventur,
 It fould *ȝow* swage sumthing of *ȝour* dollour.
 He said, My sweet Sister, [the] suith *ȝe* say,
 If that remeid micht be in onie way
 Then gud it war for to reveill my paine ;
 2040 Bot ay, alleace ! thir words ar all in vaine,
 Remeid is none, the ender of my wo
 Is death, alleace ! thairfor fra me *ȝe* go,
 And me to confort *ȝow* no mair dispone,
 And let me fterve for uther bute is none.
 With that he gave ane figh full cairfullie,
 And teiris did out rine fo wofullie,
 That wounder was that he fould leive ane hour.
 Sweit Sir, scho said, the cause of *ȝour* dolour
 Please *ȝe* reveale ; fould it *ȝow* not displease
 2050 I fould *ȝow* schaw how that ane woman was
 In alse grit trubill and adverstie
 As ony creatour in earth micht be,
 And *ȝit* throw grace of God scho did evaid
 The great missaventur befor hir laide,
 And houpe hes *ȝit* confortit for to be
 Alway restorit to hir awin degrie :
 Thairefter may *ȝe* pryse if *ȝe* or siche,
 More panis fufferit or adverstie.
 When that he hard hir [thus] fo beninglie
 2060 Him answeir make, and [eke] fo soberlie,
 To confort him fo gritlie defyring,
 And that scho was fo wo for his weiping,

Then he begane with ane pitious cheire
 The cace to tell, saying on this maneir,
 Nocht long gone syne, I lovit paramour,
 Ane Ladie quhilk was of all this warld flour,
 Ane Kingis onlie dochter and his air,
 Under bricht Phebus was thair naine sa fair,
 So humbill, gentill, sober and bening,
 2070 In quhom at schort did everie vertew ring,
 That was perteining unto womanheid.
 This eike day star and rose of gudlieheid
 Was be hir fatheris charge full haifilie
 Taine to ane wood and murtherit cruellie
 By the reporting of ane tratour knicht,
 Alleace, that ever that wofull day was licht !
 Scho was my eardlie joy and conforting,
 Whom that I lovit atoure all eardlie thing,
 My only plesour of all this warld so wyde.
 2080 He told hir furth, and did no wordis hyde.
 Scho him beheld with looke full studious ;
 And quhen scho wist it was Clariodus,
 But mair abaid anone fcho to him past,
 And him beclipit in hir armis fast ;
 For ower grit blisse no wird scho nicht outbring,
 The fuddant joy and haiftie conforting
 Unto hir heart it straik fo haifilie,
 Scho nicht not suffer it fo abundantlie,
 Bot reveift of hir spreit scho fell in fwoun.
 2090 And than Clariodus of grit renoune,
 Beholding on hir in [maift] grathlie wayis,
 And saw it was his fair Meliades,
 He nicht for joy na words bring furth or say,

Nor witt weill long quhair he was perfay.
 And quhen that he of himselfe ocht wist,
 This Madine into his armis then he thrust,
 And held hir up quhilk was to him full deir,
 And tuike cold water of the fontaine cleir
 And sproinkllit on hir lustie fnow quhyt face.

2100 So scho recoverit hes within a space,
 Saying thir wordis, Ha, my Clariodus,
 I trowit never againe to feine gow thus.
 And with ane sigh, fra that [was] faid, anone
 Ane rusch of blude furth at hir nose is gone,
 Or ellis I traist scho shold have deid beine,
 For scho nicht not for ower grit joy suseine
 Withoutin death or passioun corporall :
 For joy of nature beine celestiall,
 And with angellis inparticipat ;

2110 Quhairfor the sp̄irit mon be separat
 From the bodie, or it grit joy poffeid,
 Or forrow eik if it gritlie exceid.
 The blude effusit sa abundantlie,
 That he could not it stanch nor remidie.
 Then of the ringe alseweith rememberit he,
 That was him gevin efter the mellie
 Be him that was tranfformit in the lyoun,
 Whais vertew beine for bludis effusioum ;
 He tuichit hir with it, and scho anone

2120 Ceifit of bleiding ; and quhan this was gone,
 Thay uthir in armis did tenderlie imbrace,
 And oft hes kislit uther in that place.
 Bot ḡit all this nicht not him satifie,
 He dred that it had beine ane fantafie

Fallin on him, throw hevie thochtis fade,
 Quhairthrow that he had wites beine and mad ;
 Whairfor to hir he said, My Ladie deir,
 And is it trewth that ȝe beine with me heir ?
 Treft weill, quod scho, Clariodus my Knicht,
 2130 That I am heir full glad to se this fight,
 Whilk long gone fyne to se I trowit never,
 Sumtyme I weinit we partit beine for ever ;
 And that was quhen the burriouris me led
 Unto the forrest, and thair me uncled
 At mid nicht hour, quhen ȝe war far me fro.
 And with that word thay fighit both [the] two.
 ȝour wofull daith, quod he, and gan to weipe,
 Into my heart enterit is fo deipe,
 That ȝit ȝour lyfe nocth [all] fo perfytlie
 2140 May in my breift ȝit sink fo fuddantlie.
 What wald I longer of thair joyis wryte ?
 I can not half report nor put in dyte
 Thair bliffull cheir and joyous continance,
 Conforting uther with wordis of plesance.
 Adoun thay sat and fell in comoning,
 And them pleasit of monie diverse thing,
 Doing to uther all the cace reveill,
 As to thame hapinit, schawing everie deill
 Thair grit infortoun and adverstie.
 2150 Ather of uther then had grit pitie.
 And quhen Meliades on humbill wayis,
 Had told him all the maner and the gyse,
 How scho demainit was fo pitionflie,
 Then he for rewth did weipe full tenderlie.
 To speik in this, sik plesour tuike thir two,

That Ladar had forgettin hame to go ;
 Whairfor hir maiftres speirit for hir so fast,
 Whill scho went furth to seik hir at the laft,
 And fand her sittin onlie with ane man,
 2160 [Scho thocht hir mad, and thus in wrath began,]
 Saying, Evill woman, quhy hes thou me betraifit,
 Zour vertew ay I commendit and praisit,
 And now I fe full weill how that it standis,
 Ze fall have fair punitioun of my handis :
 And ze evill man, quha hes maid zow sa pert,
 To tryft my servand furth in this desert ;
 Wald ze hir steill fra me in this maneir ?
 Treft weill that fall not ly in zour power.
 With awfull luik to Ladar than scho faid,
 2170 Ze fall forthinke that ever this tryft was maid ;
 In ane strange hour was zour [fad] begining
 To cum to me, that neid hes of keiping.
 When Ladar faw hir maiftres was [fo] movit,
 Scho was not all content, for scho hir lovit,
 And eik scho confidderit difcreitlie,
 That for hir gud scho spake it veralie ;
 Whairfor scho faid, with fweit and humbill cheir,
 With bening luike and womanlie effeir,
 My fair Maiftres, displease zow not I pray,
 2180 For heir am I that is and falbe ay
 Zouris at all, and redie zow to pleis :
 Bot now zour heart in sumthing to appeafe,
 The trewth of this mater ze fall know of us,
 Heir is zour Lordis fone Clariodus
 But ony dreid, and I am with zow heir,
 The King of Inglandis only dochter deir.

This woman was abaisit than sumthing,
 And speirit how it nicht be so falling.
 And fecho hir tauld the cace then oppinlie.

2190 Than sat fecho down on kneis fudantlie,
 Saying, My Lord, I ask gow forgivenes,
 And ge my Lady full of gentilnes,
 Forgif me of my fault and negligens,
 That have sa far misgone in gour presens,
 And have me nothing in disdaine nor heat,
 That now [am] heir ane puire woman, God wait ;
 Ge may me weill distroy at gour awin will,
 That hes so far by reasoun said gow till.
 Clariodus [hir] up in armis tuike ;

2200 Then said Meliades with freindlie luike,
 Maistres, be glaid, and do [gow] merrie make,
 Ge are forgivine, and that I undertake ;
 Have ge no dreid, bot traist richt verilie
 We fall gow bring to honour fuddantlie.

Then said fecho to Clariodus, My love,
 Sen God hes fet our heartis thus above,
 That war so deip drounit in hevines,
 I reid with humbill continence we dres
 Us to the kirk, and thank God heartfullie :

2210 Nane fall gow ken in all the toume trewlie,
 Into this royll habite that ge weir.
 With that fecho sumylit with womanlie effeir ;
 He sumylit eike, and faid, I me consent.
 And fwa all thrie unto the kirk they went.
 And leift that folkis sould unto them take heid,
 Meliades gart hir maistres firt proceid.
 Swa in the kirke thay enterit devotlie,

And offerit thair, with heartis meiklie,
 Loving to God, with thanks a thowfand fyfe,
 2220 Whilk gave tham grace to meit on fik ane wyfe.

When this was donne, than said Clariodus,
 Madame, I think that best it war for us,
 Unto my fatheris palice for to go.
 Richt as ȝe will, fcho said, I will do so.
 Then to the palice passit thay anone,
 And this gudewyfe they maid with them to gone.
 And to the getts quhen they cumin war,
 Clariodus then said to the portar,
 My freind, we thre hes erand with the Lord,
 2230 Of quhilk he wald be glaid to heir record ;
 Whairfor I wald ȝow pray gif us entrie
 Within ȝour ȝet , to remaine quhile ȝe
 Our erand did, praying him fpeciallie,
 To cum and fpeik with us all privilie.

The portar let them enter in anone,
 Richt as thay bad he to the Earle is gone,
 And said as they him ordanit in all thing ;
 And he alfweith withouttin taryng,
 Tuike with him bot ane varlot and no mo,
 2240 Syne to the portoris ludge culd to them go.
 And quhen Clariodus [thair] can him fe,
 Adoun he sat alfweith upon his kne.
 Meliades and hir maiftres also
 Sat still and held them quyet ȝond them fro.
 He helfit hes his Father reverentlie.
 This Lord beheld his Sone, and haiftilie
 Him knew, and was amervellit for to fe
 Him diffigurat in so low degrie.

He said to him, My sone, Clariodus,
 2250 How and quhat fallioun ar þe rewlit thus ?
 Whair beine þour valiant actis and renoune,
 þour fame proclamit in ilk regioun,
 That stantis now in sik ane puire estait,
 But companie thus walking diffolat ?
 He said, My Lord, the litill valiant deid
 That in me was, withoutin ony dreid
 As ȝit I have not tint it in no wayis.
 And then anone his Father gart him ryfe,
 And fet him doum to rest thair him belyde,
 2260 Ester his ganging, quhilk was wount to ryde.
 Then told he him, with ever ilk circumstance,
 All haill the maner to the uterance,
 Of all Meliades adverfitie and wo.
 And rycht as he was telling how that scho
 Was led into the forrest to be flaine,
 This Lord micht not conteine for wo and paine ;
 Bot as ane wode man raif his hair for teine,
 With forrowfull teiris rining from his eine,
 For than he traillit that scho had beine dead,
 2270 And murtherit in the forrest but remeid.
 Then said Clariodus, My Lord, finally,
 My taill not to end [fullie] brocht have I,
 Heir quhat I fall ȝit of hir farther fay ;
 This Ladie that so verteous beine ay,
 God wald not suffer of his grit mercie,
 Hir to be flaine that tyme so cruellie :
 The burriouris of hir had sik pitie,
 That thay micht not do sik ane cruentie,
 As with thair handis sik ane virgine flo ;

2280 Bot aff the land thay gart promit to go,
 That fecho fould never be feine in that cuntrie.
 And so furth all the maner told hes he,
 Of all the eventours that hir befell,
 And how so long in Eftur fecho did dwell,
 And quhat of travell hir betyde alfo,
 And how that he in exyle thocht to go.
 And quhair is my Ladie, quoth Earle Eftur,
 That hes betyde sa mony aventure ?
 If that ȝe list with hir to speik, quoth he,
 2290 Befyd ȝow fitting heir ȝe may hir se.
 And quhen this Lord hes hard of this tyding,
 To hir he passit, lowlie inclyning,
 And in his armis imbracit hir tenderlie,
 And kiflit hir ryght oft and freindfullie,
 Having more joy and glaidnes hir to se,
 Nor ony fight that ever he saw with ey.
 He said, Madam, I thanke the Trinitie,
 That ȝe have chapit this infirmitie ;
 That it was ȝe , quhy told ȝe not, alleace !
 2300 This uther day quhen ȝe war in my place,
 That I said ȝe resemblit in bewtie
 To sik ane Ladie, if ȝe rememberit be ?
 He did hir welcum with grit reverence,
 As he that was full glaid of hir presence,
 And of the cuming of his Sone alfo ;
 Then all to chalmer togidder thay did go.
 The Earle himself is for the Countes went,
 And told hir all the maner and event.
 Scho is unto them cumit haistilie,
 2310 And thair fecho faluſt this Ladie courteſlie,

And thocht echo was in full fimpill aray,
 Scho did hir honour grit, the suith to fay,
 And welcumit hir fair on lawlie wayis,
 And echo againe hes thankit [hir] oft fayis.
 Clariodus echo tuike in armis fyne.

I can not all the maner to gow defyne,
 Nor tell gow half the joy was thame amang.
 Knichtis and Ladies thair about thame thrang,
 Them welcuming with freindlie countinane.

2320 This was ane day of feisting and plesance,
 The nicht owerpast with joy and mirrines ;
 And on the morrow with full grite bissines,
 The Earle gart ordane claithes rich and fair
 Of gold and filke, [maist] plesant and preclair,
 With rich furringis coaftlie and pretious,
 Both for this Ladie and for Clariodus,
 In all the haift and spheid that [weill] thay may.

Meliades, that wyfe and honorabill was ay,
 Requyrit hes the Earle richt humbillie,

2330 That his Ladie in bed micht with hir ly,
 Into ane chalmer onlie be them fellis,
 Whair none war bot Ladies and damosellis.
 The Earle hir grantit hes with cheir bening,
 And thairof hir commendit in mekill thing.

Syne on the morne quhen tyme was [for] to ryfe.
 Rich cloathes of gold most richlie to devyfe,
 Thay brocht unto Meliades the bricht ;
 And to hir Maistres eik as it was rycht,
 Thay brocht ane goune of fkarlot gud and fyne,
 2340 That was weill furrit with potent rich armyne.
 Then blyth was this gudwyfe of hir livaray,

The quhilk unto Meliades can fay,
 Madam, I thankeȝ our Ladyschip heartlie,
 That me hes gart reuaird [thus] fo richlie ;
 So alkit leave to pas hame to hir house,
 Quhilk scho hir grantit with countinancie joyous,
 Saying, ȝe mone cum oft and vissie me ;
 Or we depart ȝe fall rewairdit be
 Far better be fik sevin ; and then heartlie
 2350 Scho hir imbracit, and kiflit tenderlie.

Clariodus upon the fame maneir,
 With cloathes that was pretious and deir,
 Servit was in his chalmer royallie ;
 To quhom ane barbour com [full] bissilie,
 And off he shouife his lang hairis [all] cleine,
 That weill long space upon his beard had beine.
 Syne lustillie he did his geir on dres,
 As flour of Knichtheid and of gentilnes.

The Earle unto Meliades is went,
 2360 And said, Madame, it war convenient
 Unto the kirk to go all in effeir,
 And to gif thankis in all devot maneir
 To God, that did fo mekill for ȝow provide.
 This Ladie said, we awcht baith tyme and tyde
 To praiife the Lord, that ws fo happie maid.
 This being said, no longer thay abaid.
 Then be the arme he tuike Meliades,
 The Court all followit upon gudlie wayis.
 The pepill gatherit in grit plentie,
 2370 This strange Ladie and Princes for to fe ;
 Thay hir [bricht] bewtie gritlie did commend,
 And said, And feike unto the worldis end,

Thair micht no man fe sik ane [gudelie] ficht,
 As for ane luftrie Ladie and ane Knicht,
 Nor for to luike upon that fair Princes,
 And on this Knicht, quhilk wicht and worthie was.
 Scho enteris in the kirk, and [eke] anone
 The Countes meiklie efter hir is gone,
 With hir ane Lady fair and weil befeine.

2380 This Princes was honourit as ane Queine,
 The quhilk hir held fo [wife and] demurlie
 At hir devotioun, and so womanlie,
 With fo grit constancie and devote cheir,
 Bening of luike, and womanlie of maneir,
 That to the pepill weill it micht be feine,
 That scho ane michtie Kingis dochter beine,
 And was discindit of ane nobill hous.

When they had endit thair devotioun thus,
 The nobill Earle hir be the armis tuike,

2390 And with ane humbill countinancie and luike
 To Palice ar returnit demurlie,
 And hame them followit all the companie.
 Be than was all the denner redie dicht,
 And to the hall affendit everie Knicht,
 And went to meit and fuire rycht nobillie.
 Thair was ane mirrie found of menstrellie,
 With interludis and songis of Ladies bricht.
 Syne efter denner paslit everie wicht
 To chalmer quhair thay plifantlie disport ;
 2400 Full glaid and joyous was this luftrie fort.

The Earle unto Meliades is went,
 And faid, Madame, it war expedient
 That I furth send to gour Father the King

Ane purfevant, to tell him this tything.

The Ladie faid, It war my will doutles,

The souner the better as I [do] ges.

Ane Purfevant belyve gart he [there] call,

And his intent to him declairit all ;

And at Meliades fyne speirit he,

2410 What scho wald bide him fay to that cantrie.

Than faid scho, Freind, [I bid,] with bening face,

ȝe me commend unto my Fatheris Grace,

And to my Ladie eike my Mother the Queine,

And unto everie Lord and Ladie scheinre

That hes me kend ; and me commend also

To Romaryn and Bonvaleir they two ;

And ȝe fall fay unto my Father the King,

And to my Mother eike, that, God willing,

I fall returne to them with more blythnes

2420 Nor I did from them pairt. Quhen this faid was,

The Purfevant delyverlie furth went,

And left the Court in joyis permanent.

The Earle was joyous, and his Ladie eike,

Of the recovering of this Princes meike,

And of the cuming of thair Sone also :

Clariodus was bliffull out of wo,

That so had fundin fair Meliades :

[And no leſs bliffull this ȝoung Ladie wes,]

That scho had gottine Clariodus hir Knicht ;

2430 Hir wofull heart was raifit upon height,

That stude before so deipe into distres ;

Bot ȝit for all hir joy and grit glaidnes

In constant leving so weill scho did conteine,

That be hir cheir it micht not knowin beine,

As fecho that was difcendit of royall bluid ;
For both of vertew and of pulcritude
In warld fecho fluid without comparisoune,
Of all Princes, Bewtie from the starris doune,
Whom with grit joy in Eftur I let dwell,
2440 And now of uther thingis speik I will,
Of Philippone, and of his Court alfo,
And thus out of the Third Buik [will] I go.

THE FOURT BUIK
OF
CLARIODUS.

ERLE ESTURIS Purfevant felt no raige
Into the fea, bot had ane fair voyage,
And at Belvillardoun [he] did aryve,
And enterit in the oftlarie belyve,
Whair that Clariodus was wount to be ;
And alse founе as the oftlar can him sie,
He speirit in quhat cuntrie he did dwell,
And of his tydingis prayit him to tell.
I am cumit, quoth he, from Estur land,
10 And if ȝe lift for to heir [my] tydand,
My Lord I left in gude prosperitie,
My Ladie eike, and all thair fair meinȝe ;
Whair that I left my Lord Clariodus,
Wha never was glaider nor [mair] joyous ;
Whair I left eike Meliades the scheine,
Wha Air and Princes of this regioune beine ;
Thair fecho is treittit nobillie at all,
As ony Queine in hir estait royll,

Wha heartlie greting unto *ȝow* me sendis ;
 20 And eik Clariodus him recommendis
 To *ȝow* and to [his freind] Allan also.
 And quhen the [worthie] hōst hard him fay fo,
 That fair Meliades was *ȝit* on lyve,
 He than was in joy sa exultive,
 That of him self almaist he wist no thing ;
 The Lord, he said, the Celestiall King
 Mote *ȝow* conserue [for] ever more I pray,
 For *ȝour* gud tydings in this house this day ;
 If it [may] please *ȝow* go unto the King,
 30 ȝe fall convoyit be but tarying.
 He maid him for to dyne, and than anone
 To the Palice togidder ar thay gone.
 Whan that the King in chalmer thair thay fand,
 The Hōst said, Sir, heir is an Pursephand,
 That unto *ȝow* can schaw the best tyding,
 That ever I hard of in my leving.
 He said, that he was welcum ; and than allweith
 Commandit him his credence for to kyth.
 The Pursephant sat doun upon his knie,
 40 And said, Sir, the eternall God *ȝow* fe,
 From Eistur cuntrie I am cumit heir,
 Sent from Meliades *ȝour* onlie dochter deir,
 Whilk heartlie gretis *ȝow* in humbill wayis,
 And recommendis hir ane thowfand fayis
 Unto *ȝour* Grace and to my Lady the Queine,
 And alse to everilk Lord and Lady scheine
 Of all *ȝour* Court, both unto more and les,
 With all hir mynde and heartis humblenes ;
 And that scho fairis weill I *ȝow* affure,
 50 And lovit is of everie creatoure.

When that the King had hard this blyth tyding,
 For ouer grit joy and heafteie conforting,
 His spreit was [all to] reft ane quhyle him fro ;
 Syne to the hevin he held his handis two,
 Louing to God giveing ane weill lang space ;
 In armis fyne he did with joy imbrace
 The Pursevant, and faid, My freind so deire,
 Rycht happie tydings have \ge e brocht us heir.
 The foure fellowis of Sir Clariodus
 60 Full glaid was of this tyding and joyous.
 In ehalmer evill disposit was the Queine,
 For forrow and cair ay feike [scho] had beine
 Sen efter the murther of Meliades,
 Whilk was hir told in so cruell wayis.
 When scho thir tydings hard, scho rose anone,
 And to the Kingis chalmer is scho gone,
 Led be two Knichts, for scho was wonder waike ;
 The Pursevant in armis scho did take ;
 And scho, that nicht not speike ane weill lang space,
 70 Full oft scho thankit God of his gude graee.
 Romaryn was full blyth of this to heir,
 And eik fo was bir varlot Bonvaleir.

The word of this fame thing [did] spred fo fast,
 Whill fillit was the Palice at the laft,
 Of pepill thringing [tydings] for to heir,
 With heartis blyth in bliffull found and eheir.
 Both King and Queine, with lord and ladie faire,
 And all the pepill that beine gatherit thair,
 Unto the Kirk thay \ge eid with ane consent,
 80 Devote of mynd and humbil of intent,
 And God thay thankit wonder heartfullie,
 That of his grace and of his grit mercie

From daith prefervit had Meliades.
 The word is gone upon [full] haistie wayis
 Out throw the toun, that scho was ȝit on lyve ;
 Then all the bellis ringin war belyve
 Of everie kirke that beine within the toune,
 With monie ane Prelat in procesioune.

This being donne, the King to Paleice went,
 90 With monie ane lord and ladie reverent ;
 The Pursevant thay feisit royallie,
 And cherist him richt fair and tenderlie.
 This day thay did bot play, [and] feift, and dance,
 With joyous hearts fulfillit of plesance.

Thir tydings spred full soune throw the cuntrie,
 And everie wight of hie and low degré
 Was blyth thairof, and said, No ferlie beine,
 That scho that was of everilk vertew Queine,
 Devoid of vice and everilk villanie,
 100 Was fo escaipit from the tyrannie
 Of crewell folkis, and evill devyfit mynd ;
 God wald not suffer hir of fik ane kynd
 Distroyit be, quhilke beine of bewtie rose,
 And of all womanheid the only chose.

The King had ȝit ane litill jeloufie,
 This taill could nocht his mynd all satifie ;
 He gart be callit the foure murthereris,
 And all the cace at lenth he at thame speiris,
 How with his onlie bairne that thay hade wrocht,
 110 Commanding that thay sould dissimull nocht.
 Thay sat all foure upon thair kneis dounie,
 And anone begane to schaw the fassioune,
 Saying, Our gratiouis Prince and soverane Lord,
 To ȝour Hienes the trewth we fall record.

We went with hir as [that] Sir Thomas bade,
 Him to displeis forsuith we war full rade ;
 And quhen within the forreſt we hir led,
 Scho of hir lyfe full mekill was adred,
 And on hir kneis beninglie aſkit grace,
 120 With pitious teiris rolling on hir face.
 We ſaid that ſcho behuift to be deid,
 Or than our ſelfs to die without remeid.
 Scho aſkit licence than for Godis faike,
 To ſuffer hir ane quhile hir prayeris make ;
 Ane litill ſpace ſcho paſſit from us than,
 And unto God hir orisoun begane.
 We drew behind hir privily to heir
 What ſcho wald fay, and hard the haill maneir ;
 And fyne we knew be hir confeſſioun,
 130 That innocent ſcho was of all trafoun,
 To God ſcho did fo pitiouſlie compleine.
 Then verie rewth our heartis did conſtraine
 For to doe mercie to that Ladie ſweit,
 That aſking mercie wofullie did greit :
 We gart hir ſweir out of this realme to go,
 As we that not for pitie micht hir flo ;
 As naine on lyve in all this world, I wait,
 That had hir feine as we in like eſtait,
 Albeit he foulde have tint his awin lyfe,
 140 Than micht have drawin hir bluid with ane knyfe.
 And quhen ſcho ſaw we did fik grace hir till,
 Scho hir diſpuilȝeit of hir awin fre will,
 And to us gave hir kirtell of velvot blake,
 And eik hir chaine, and bade in patience take ;
 To hold hir farke on hir ſcho aſkit leave,
 As ſcho that had no thing mair us to geive.

Ryght sa to go fra us scho was content,
We dreid that scho with thorne and breer be schent.

The King this heirand weipit pitiouslie,

150 For everie word that he hard specifie
Out throw his heart did as ane arow gleid.
He callit on ane fervant him belyd,
And gart ane thowfand merkis [to] them give,
Becaus thay sufferit his only doghter leive.
He thankit them, and [eike] tuik from them thair
The vyle unhoneft office that thay baire ;
Syne gave them offices of maire honoure,
And maid them men of substance and valour.

When this was donne, he was content at all ;

160 His foure maisteris of houfhald gart he call,
And bad thay fould gar ordane haifsilie
Two chariots, arayit [full] richlie
With gold, and silke, and pretious workis feir,
With nobill palfrays thairto, as did effeire,
For to bring hame his dochter from Eftur ;
And bad thay fould gar wryt with bissie cure
Unto his vassoullis ouer all the regioune,
And to his Knichtis gritteſt of renowne,
That war of moft nobilitie and fame,

170 For to compeir at Bellvilladoun be name.
The letteris being directit, richt anone
The forfaids Earls can them all dispone
To cum upon thair moft gudlie wyſe
Unto this toune, as ge have hard devyſe.
Within ten dayis thay war all redie dight,
Be ſea and land they ſped them at thair might.
At Bellvilladoun they did anone aryve ;
Nobiller Knichtis was thair none on lyve

Nor was into that nobill companie ;

180 Sir Panfe de Lapre, [ane knight] full worthie,
 Sir Ronar de Galt, ane knight of nobill famie,
 Sir Lion de la Mont [as] height his name,
 Sir Brufe de la Woy thair was also,
 Sir Broune de la Moris, and monie mo,
 Sir Pennent de la Carare thair was eike,
 With his Ladie and hir sex virgins meik,
 With monie uther ladie fair of face,
 That day aryvit [all] in that ilke place,
 Quhilk cumin war in thair most gudlie wyse,

190 To ryde in court for fair Meliades.
 The Knightis namis heir now all to tell
 At this [ilk] tyme it war rycht lang to dwell.
 Unto the Kingis Palice ar thay went,
 And fyne unto his Hienes are present,
 Whom thay have helfit with grit reverence ;
 And fyne unto the Queinis excellence
 Inclynit thay with bening face and cheire.
 The King them welcumit on fair maneire,
 And with them hes advyfit to and fro,

200 And at the laist he said, It stondis fo,
 Meliades my doghter, as \ge knew,
 Full fore beine trublit for ane traitors saw ;
 I wint aluterlie fecho had beine dead,
 Bot God for hir has schappin sik remeid,
 That fecho in Eftur cuntrie is on lyve :
 Thairfor I have sent for \gow [all] belyve,
 To pase for hir, and bring hir to this land.
 Full glaidlie this the Knichtis tuike on hand,
 For thay hir lovit ouer all uther thing,

210 For hir meiknes and womanlie having.

This being donne, to supper went the King,
 With monie luftrie lords and ladies ȝing ;
 They feifit long, and maid full mirrie cheir.
 And efter that thay rafe from [the] suppeir,
 The King ordanit thir luftrie Knightis two,
 [Sir] Palexis and Amandour also,
 And two eik of his maisteris of houfhold,
 This companie in governance to hold,
 And bad that thay fould rewle and gyd the leave,
 220 That in all way thay fould his honour fave.
 He then delyverit with full meike fermoune,
 And gave to them of gold ane millioune,
 Sir Pennents Ladie luftilie befeine,
 And eik hir sex virginis bricht and scheine.
 Then Bonvaleir tuike leave with them to go ;
 So did this luftrie ladie Romaryn also,
 And to Meliades scho past, for sinth
 Scho was the Ladie bir nureift had of ȝouth,
 With monie uther ladie fresch of hew :
 230 Bonvaleir eik, that ay was [leil and] trew,
 Did with them go, with everie kynd fervand
 That of befor hir servit in Ingland.
 When everie Lord and Ladie leave hes taine,
 Anone unto thair ludging are thay gaine ;
 And on the morne as the day up cleirit,
 Then everie wicht him dreslit as effeirit,
 And on thair horse ascendit but abaid,
 And royallie out throw the toun thai raid,
 With found of trumpit and of clarion.
 240 Blyth was the pepill that baid in the toun,
 For weill thay knew thair erand : ane and all
 Then prayit God that fair thay fould befall,

And gif them grace to speid on fik ane wylf,
 That thay hame bring the fair Meliades,
 Whais palfray with the goldin taill and mene
 Was with them led, quhite as the fnow and schene.
 In Turkie land I heir it was the gyse,
 Thair palfrayis to depaint on fik ane wyse,
 That from them thay will cut [baith] taill and maine,
 250 And goldin traces hing on thair againe.
 I wald the Reidar tuike not fik confait,
 That nature had wrocht them fo diligate,
 Leaft that he leuch thairat, and maid ane jape,
 Lath ware myne Awthore to be maid thair Aip.
 Thus rydis furth this royall cumpanie,
 Thay dreslit to thair fhippis haistilie.
 Thay hade the winde fo richt and eike fo faire,
 They go alse swift as aigill in the aire,
 That thay within twelf dayis did aryve
 260 To Eftur cuntry ; and then to land belyve
 They went in feir, and on thair horses ascendit,
 And to the toun of Belladoun intendit ;
 And on the Tuifday be the hour of noune
 They com to it, quhair thay discendit soune,
 And everilke wicht gois from his horfe dounie,
 And in the fairest Innis in the toun
 They tuike thair ludging. Bot fo befell anone,
 Ane fquyer of the Palice their was one
 Into the toun, and saw this lustie fort,
 270 Whilke home is went, and of it maid reporte
 Unto Clariodus, and he alse weill
 Unto Meliades this thing did reveill,
 Saying, Madame, is it gour will to go,
 And take gour leave this land of Eftur fro ?

Scho faid, My lustie Knight Clariodus,
 What garis $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ow speir this thing at me thus?
 Rather I wald, if that my fortoun were,
 Of Eftur cuntrie for to be Ladie heire,
 Nor to be Queine of the grittest regioum
 280 That now is under the hevins dominioune.
 I will $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ow tell, quoth he, $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ our Father the King
 Hes sent for $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ow ane companie tending
 Of Lordis, Knightis and of Ladies faire ;
 Remaine $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ e heir quhill I againe repaire ;
 Now will I to my Lord my Father go,
 And tell him this. Then pairtit he her fro :
 Bot first unto his awin chalmer paſt he,
 Whair lay his riches in grit quantitie,
 That he had wone from Sarafeins in fyght ;
 290 And ane bulget he tuike of ane hudge weight,
 And oppinit it, and tuike of it anone
 Ane rich pe $\text{\texttt{et}}$ trell as onie star that schone ;
 And fyne unto Meliades it brocht,
 And to refave it fairlie hir besought,
 And at the entrie of the Lords it weir.
 And then smylling with womanlie effeire,
 Scho faid, Clariodus my Knight full deir,
 May it not weill sufficeice the nobill giftis feire,
 All that $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ our Father my Couſing gave me,
 300 And eik $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ our Mother in that fame degrie ;
 Bot $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ e in all gait [ay] will them exceed ?
 Now of like thing $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ e know thair is no neid.
 He caufit eik his Mother the Countes,
 To treat this Lady with all bifines
 To take this pe $\text{\texttt{et}}$ trell rich for to behold.
 And scho in baith hir handis did it fold,

And said, My Ladie, do me this plesance
 This pe^ctrell to refave at my instance ;
 With that about hir schoulders [scho] it laid ;
 310 As onie lamp with blifull beams [it] glaid.
 Then scho, the wall of womanlie maneir,
 Hes thankit them [full] oft with bening cheir.

[Then] Clariodus is to the Earle went,
 And schew to him the maner incontinent
 Of all thir folkis, as \ge have hard me tell.
 The Countes did still in the chalmer dwell
 Meliades to dres into hir geir
 Of thingis sik as gainit for hir to weir.
 Scho cled hir in ane royll cloath of gold,
 320 That was richt fair and plesant to behold,
 And did hir heid attyre full richlie ;
 And fyne the pe^ctrell wonder plesantlie,
 Scho pat about hir halfe as lillie quhyte,
 As scho that beine the patroune of delyte
 Of all the warld, withoutin comparisoun,
 Of everilk vertew and [of hie] renoune.
 The Countes to hir in sporting did fay,
 [I will me attyre all in fresch array]
 Againe \ge one strangeris cum me for to se ;
 330 Whairfor I wald be praisit in bewtie ;
 And alse I wald [that] thay [weill] understude,
 That Esture Ladyis ar both faire and gude.
 Meliades leuch at hir that raillit fo,
 For scho ane plesant Ladie was also.
 Scho did hir bodie cloath full richlie,
 In ane fair goun of velvete cramoisie,
 Furrit with armeine that was nobill and fyne,
 And lufillie hir heid atyrrit fyne.

When thay had put them in ane fresh aray,
 340 Into ane plefant chalmer passit thay,
 And thair abaid with all the lustie forte,
 Making full merrie gamis and disperte,
 Whill tyme beine to fetch them to the hall ;
 Of the ambaflate was thair speiches all.

Clariodus at his Fatheris commande
 Two maisteris of his houfhald hes ordand
 To go and fetch the lustie companie.
 And thay anone are passit full glaiddie,
 With squyeris and with knightis fresh and ging ;
 350 And he to thame command gave and biding.
 The Count of Esture that was gentill and wyfe
 Then be the arme hes taine Meliades,
 And led hir to the hall ryght honorablie,
 And scho [unto] him told all quyetlie
 Of the riche gift Clariodus hir gave.
 Then faid the Count, Madam, so God me fave,
 My fone I lovit tenderlie before ;
 Bot for that now I love him far the more,
 To doe service to Ladies honorabill,
 360 Sen that I understand he is [richt] abill.
 They had not talkit long on this wayis,
 When the ambaflat, gudlie to devyse,
 In fair maneir affendit in the hall.
 And than in prefence thair com first of all
 Sir Amandur and [eik] Sir Palexis ;
 And fyne two Lordis of grite worthines,
 That maisteris of houfhald war unto the Kinge.
 Helfit thay have the young Princes condinge ;
 And scho refavit them with plefant cheire,
 370 With faire effeir and womanlie maneir,

Soberlie faying, ȝe all welcum beine.
 Scho kiflit them, with teiris from hir eine.
 The Knichtis two then weipit tenderlie
 For joy and pitie of the fair Ladie,
 That faikleflie had sufferit fik distres.
 Syne halfit they the Count and the Countes.
 The Kings two maisteris of houfholt fyne
 Full lowlie to the Ladie did inclyne.
 Scho tham refavit with joy and grit plifance,

380 And kiflit them with gudlie countinance.
 Syne halfit they the Earle, and he thame eike ;
 And fyne with everie Lord and Ladie meike
 They spake at lenth, and maid thair aquentance,
 With heartis full of joy and all plifance.
 Meliades fyne they tuike to ane pairt,
 And told how that the King with all his heart
 And eike the Queine did heartlie them commend
 To hir quhom speciallie they war [to] fend
 For to convoy hir hame in hir cuntrie.
 390 Than how thay fair scho speirit full glaidlie ;
 And how fure all the Court [anon] scho speirit.
 Then they have tauld hir all scho them requyrit.
 And quhen Meliades, of grit bewtie,
 Receavit had ilke Knight in his degrie,
 Then com the Ladyes full of lawlieheid,
 And law inclynit to hir gudlieheid ;
 And scho refavit them with imbracing,
 And kiflit them with countinance bening,
 Gyding hirself fo wylle and discreitlie,
 400 With having and effeir fo womanlie,
 That everilk wicht did boldlie hir commend.
 And pairt thair was with quhom scho was unkend,

Long tyme before defyng hir to see,
 Wha than affirmit that all was veritie
 That was reportit of hir womanheid,
 Of hir great bewtie and hir lustieheid.
 Romaryn was with joy revest in spreit,
 Hir breift with bliffe was so full and compleit,
 [With] whom dreidles Meliades the cleir

410 Wald speik allone full faine at thaire laseire.

The two maisteris of houſhould of Ingland
 Stude with the Earle of Eſtur, comonand
 On materis langand to Meliades.
 Clariodus that worthie beine and wyſe,
 Caufit ȝoung Lordis [for] to go and dance
 With ȝoung Ladies of bewtie and plefance.
 So they put of the day with mirrines,
 With glaidſum ſportis and with grit blythnes.
 The Earle ſtude with thir Lordis advyſing ;

420 And fo, among all uther commoning,
 Of this Princes began thay to devyſe
 How ſecho foulde be at poyn̄t anone, quhat wayis,
 And how that all thingis foulde be ordainit
 Of hir abuilgement for hir eſtait.
 And then the Count of Eſtur faid them till,
 ȝe fall ſe, Lordings, if it war ȝour will,
 What ordinit is for hir we fall go luke ;
 And he them both into ane wairdrope tuike,
 And gart diſcover the littar that was bricht,
 430 And chariot eike that [plesantlie] caſt licht,
 Of gold and ſtonis that war pretious ;
 Unto thair fightis that it was mervellous ;
 And of hir horſe the coſtliſe harniſching
 Thay have commendit into mikill thing :

For all that hir pertinit for to weir,
 Both for hir self and for hir palfray-geir,
 Was wrocht with stome and pearle ryght potent,
 Bricht twinkling as the flarrie firmament.
 Syne with the Earle agane returnit thay,
 440 Beholding on the dansing and the play
 Whill tyme [it] beine to supper for to gone :
 And then the hall devoydit was anone
 Whill buird beine all coverit and arayit ;
 And then thay went to supper and not delayt.
 I will not tell of [all] thair courflis heir..
 When they had sounit and maid mirrie cheir,
 Thay dansit, fang, and playit, and disporte,
 That long it war the maner to reporte.
 When tyme [it] was to bedis for to gone,
 450 Lordis and Ladies tuike thair leave anone,
 And to thair chalmeris went to take them ref.
 Meliades to bed hes hir adreft,
 The Ladies of hir chalmer with hir went.
 Full glaid scho was and blyth in hir intent
 With Romaryn to commoune at lafeire ;
 Full long they spake of diverse matters feire ;
 Whylome they spake of leth, quhylome of loth,
 Whylome they lewch and quhylome weippit both.
 [And] when they had long tyme commonit so,
 460 Bonvaleir scho commandit for to go
 At morrow to the suburbs of the toun
 To the Gudwyfe with quhom scho did fojorne,
 Commanding hir to be at hir ryfing ;
 And that scho foulde the wyfis with hir bring,
 That enterit war with hir in houfe to dwell.
 He tuike his leave and ran [full] soun to tell.

He with fik diligence thir wyes fough,
 That he hes them all thre unto hir brocht
 Be houris ten ; and then, without taryng,
 470 Hir Fathers maisters of houfhald gart scho bring,
 And faid, My frindis, lo ! it standis thus,
 When I was in my maist distres noyous,
 Thir wyes me refavit and weill relevit,
 Or ellis I had in povertie beine mischevit ;
 They war nixt God my comfort and refuge,
 Fra hunger and cauld thay maid me weill to luge :
 Whairfor I will \ge geive unto thir thrie
 Pairt of the fynance [that] is fent to me.
 Blyth war thir Lordis to doe as scho them bade,
 480 Thay faid they sould obey with heartis glaid,
 To gif or to difpone at hir bidding.
 The wyes was abaifit then fumthing,
 When they saw hir arayit on fike wayis.
 Then meiklie to them went Meliades,
 And tuike them in hir armis all about,
 Saying, My fweit freindis, have \ge no doubt
 Bot I fall be to \ge gow ane doghter trew,
 And cum quhen that \ge lift me to perfew,
 \ge falbe supportit [all thrie] richlie.
 490 All kneilling, they hir thankit courteslie.
 Scho gart delyverit be unto thir thrie,
 Of gold, and silver, and [of] gud monie
 Alse mikill as wald by of heritage
 Thrie hundereth merkis worth to thair waige ;
 And gart be gevine unto them also
 Ane thowfand pund or scho wald pairt them fro,
 To by thair misteris. And thir wylis thrie
 Oft thankit hir with voices upon hie,

Saying, Scho was to them ane thankfull gaift,
 500 That them unto sik riches had posseft ;
 Praying to God and to his Sone so sweit,
 Ever to keipe hir in bodie and in spreit.
 Thay tuike thair leave and hamwart [than] could go.
 Rycht fyne s Echo hes commandit thir maisteris two,
 That of that Palice everie servitoure
 Sould be rewairdit with gold and grit trafoure.
 And so was donne with like [ane] abundance,
 That thay thairefter had ay in remembrance :
 Whairfor the Count and the Countes also
 510 Full humbillie hir thankit baith thir two.
 Scho said, Ge fould no thankis gif to me ;
 Bot ge of me fould mekill thankit be,
 That am to gow beholdin in like wayis.
 With this the gudlie fresche Meliades,
 Out of ane coffer tuike, riche to behold,
 Two gudlie collors of the fineſt gold,
 Saying, Ge two in my remembrance
 Sall weir thir colloris, if it be gour plefance.
 Thay thankit hir, and said thay fould glaidlie
 520 Refave them for hir saike, that was worthie,
 And all thair lyfe keip them in [hie] daintie,
 In the remembrance of hir blyth bewtie.
 And fyne s Echo gart draw furth ane courfour faire,
 In all the wrold was not ane gudlier,
 And gart Bonvaleir hir servant him refave,
 And to Clariodus anone him gave ;
 Whairof he thankit [hir] rycht courteſlie,
 And hir varlot rewairdit michtilie.
 When this was donne, thay pasſit for to dyne ;
 530 And maid them reddie for thair jormay fyne.

Meliades is passit af the toun,
 With all hir companie of grite renouune ;
 Full monie ane Lord and Lady hir convoyit,
 In cloth of gold full richlie arayit.
 Scho wore ane hate full riche upon hir heade,
 Whilk shynit of sapheris and of roobies reide,
 Ane rich pe^ctrell about hir schoulderis hang,
 Hir coftlie brydell all of gold it rang ;
 And heich upon the litter was scho fet,

540 Whilk was with stonis and pearles all owerfret,
 With cussiounis wrocht with cloath of gold full fyne ;
 Scho schynit as dois the fairest star matutyne.
 All voyde befor hir com ane chariot bricht
 Of michtie stonis, castling plesant licht,
 Hir palfray with the goldin maine and taill,
 Hir varlot cled in royall apparrell.
 Syne ten Ladies on ten palfrayis quhyte
 Com efter hir, quhom to sie was delyte.
 The Ladie Eistur, and Ladie de la Grance,
 550 And Ladie de la Cariar of plesance,
 Upon ane chariot fat in gudlie wayis,
 The quhilk the King sent to Meliades.
 The leave com efter syne weill ordinat,
 In chariots frechlie efter thair eftaite.
 The silver trumpits blew with merie found,
 In joy and bliffe this companie furth bound.
 The peiple bad God be in thair companie,
 [And weipit for the love of this Ladie.]
 Clariodus ane quhile behind thame baid,
 560 Garring be turfit the thesawre that he hadde
 Intill Syprus win from the Turkis stong ;
 Bot he owertuike them or it wasocht long,

And to the Count his father thus he laid,
 My Lord, I think it speidfull that we raid
 Throw France, for it is the most plesant way ;
 And heirupon accordit all beine they.

Thus towardis France they raid all in feir,
 And so they have them sped in sik maneire
 That in schort tyme thay com to Sant Dynice.

570 Thay lichtit thair and tuike ane gudlie Innis,
 Whair thay ane day and eike ane nicht reposit,
 Whom for to se the peipill all rejoisit ;
 Whair thair was of the Kingis Court ane Knight,
 Quhilke them espyit evin as they did licht,
 And speirit them ; and quhen he understude
 The Ladies name of plesant pulchritude,
 And quhat the lordis and ladies with hir beine,
 Ane fairer sight he thoght he had never seine.
 Unto the King he raid or he wald bline,
 580 And told him all the maner and the meine,
 What that thay war, and how thay war arayit.
 The nobill King no longer than delayit ;
 Bot haifilie fent for the Constabill,
 And with Court of Knichtis honorabill,
 He fent them for to meit, and he amone
 Towardsis Sant Denis with his Court is gone.

Be this the Court of fair Meliades
 On horfe ascendit was on gudlie wayis,
 On gatwart cuning unto Parice toun,
 590 Of joyous trumpits with ane mirrie found.
 The Constabill hes met and helfit them all.
 Syne to Meliades in speciall
 He paßlit, and hes maid his aquentance,
 Saying, Madame, but onie variance,

Thay said the trewth that praisit *ȝour* bewtie ;
 For verilie, as it apeiris to me,
 That none *ȝour* bewtie did so fare compryse,
 Bot *ȝe* deservit more ane thowfand syse
 To beine commendit, and that I dar weill say.

600 With that fcho changit hew, as fcho that ay
 Abandonit beine with [all] fchame and dreid,
 As bloffome [fueit] of bening womanheid ;
 For fcho was never manlie nor *ȝit* pert
 [In ocht,] nather in plaine nor in desert.

So raid thay furth with mirrie collatioun.
 And as thay war ane myle from Parice toun,
 Sex armit Knightis met they in the way,
 And to Clariodus soune dreslit thay ;
 Syne helfit him, and then they said him till,

610 Sir Knight, *ȝe* tell us, if it be *ȝour* will,
 If sike ane Knight *ȝe* know as we do feike.
 He answeirit them with wordis wyse and meike,
 What Knight is he ? unto me tell his name.
 Clariodus, thay said, of mikill fame,
 The Count of Efturs fone, and eik his heare ;
 If he be in this companie declair ?
 We have him fought in monie feire cuntrie,
 For out through all the world praisit is he,
 Both flour of knightheid and of nobilness ;

620 And for he is of sik ane worthines,
 Ryght faine we wald in armis him affaill,
 If ony of us micht gif to him batell ;
 And if that on micht not, [why,] then fould two ;
 And if that two micht not, [why,] then fould mo ;
 And if he war so abill under scheild,
 As to us all sex fight to gif in feild,

On efter on, or with us all at onis :

And thus we are him feikand for the nonis,
For to affay our strength and chevalrie

630 On him that of this warld is most worthie ;
And if he happen for to ftryke us doun,
We are content he have us to presoune ;
And if we fuilȝe, or dois him fuppryfe,
To take him with us in the famine wyse.
To them full meiklie he answeirit thus,
I am the Knight ȝe call Clariodus,
Bot not as ȝe me call the warldis floure ;
For monie ane Knight thair is of mair valour :
ȝit nevertheles, if that it be ȝour will,
640 Anone I fall gif battell heir ȝow till.
And quhen they harde, he ȝpake fa courteslie,
The mair thay him commendit verilie.

When that Meliades hard this tyding,
Scho was affrayit into mikill thing,
And prayit God devoutlie him to fave,
And give him grace the victorie to have.

Clariodus pat on his helme anone,
And with his speire is to the formoſt gone,
And to the eard him fstraike withoutin ho ;

650 Syne to ane uther dreflit him to go,
And fo him hit quhill on the ground he lyis ;
Syne fyve he servit on the famen wayis.
The fext against him dreflit fellowunlie ;
Thir Knightis ran togidder forcilie,
And brake thair speiris, and maid ane courſe faire.
And fo thir two fo oft hes counterit thair,
Whill [that] awght speiris [all] in funder brake ;
To gif them roume the Court raid all abake,

Them to behold thay had [full] grite plesance.

660 At the fevint course, with knightlie countenance,
 Clariodus him hit with sik [ane] force,
 Whill to the eard \ge eid both man and horfe.
 Then all the Court, that was beholding by,
 Heigh praisit hes his nobill chevalrie.

Then com the [faid] sex Knightis all in feire
 Unto him, saying, that all the Court might heire,
 Sir, unto \ge ow we us presoneiris \ge ield,
 As to the nobillest Knight that ever buire scheild,
 To prissoun right, evin as \ge e will, [leid us.]

670 Then noblie spake to them Clariodus,]
 Saying, \ge e fall go to \ge one faire prisoun,
 Unto \ge on Ladies, and pay \ge our ranfoun.
 He tuike them be the hands on courtefe wyse,
 And hes them led to fair Meliades.
 He faid, Madame, refave thir presoneris,
 Demaine thame as to \ge our estait effeiris.
 Then said scho meiklie to the Comftabill,
 Call \ge e it not best that I be merciabill ?
 I wald tham freith unto thair libertie,
 680 If that it war \ge our counfall, quhat fay \ge e ?
 Madame, he faid, I sweir \ge ow be my trewth,
 It war \ge our honour upon them to have rewth,
 And for to freith them [out] of \ge our prissoun,
 Now at \ge our entrie into Parice toun.
 Then said scho thus, Fair Siris, for his faik
 That unto me \ge ow presoners did make,
 I gif \ge ow fredome heir of my presoun.
 They thankit hir with [richt] bening fernoune.
 And syne unto Clariodus they went,
 690 And ane of them thus spake with meike intent ;

O floure of knighthed and of chevalrie,
 We have gow fought full long and bissily,
 And now we have fund gow of grit valouris,
 All to gour worship and nothing unto ouris ;
 Heir we us offer to gour service and thrall,
 Full hie we fall exalt gour name ower all ;
 We wer borne in the cuntrie of Polyne,
 Cadnox de Halt my name is for certayne.
 He namit all his fellowis namis fyne,
 700 And wald have taine thair leave and could inclyne.
 Then he requyrit them with all his heart
 For to abyde ; and tuike them in ane pairt,
 And of his purfe furth hes [he] taine anone
 Sex diamonts as onie lampe that schone ;
 And faid, My freindis, heartlie I requyre
 This litill mater to have of me heire ;
 Thir diamonds than fall ge of me taise,
 And have them to gour Ladies for my faike :
 Quhilk thay refavit, thanking him oft fyse,
 710 Saying, The honouris and the grit impryse
 That him was gevin, it was not all for nought.
 Thay tuike thair leave and hamwart ar they fought.
 The French Knightis, quhen this thing thay had feine,
 His maners with them gritlie praisit beine.
 Then royallie to the toun furth thay raide,
 And to the Kingis Palice but abaid
 They have them sped, [and] then doun all thay licht.
 The Constabill hes taine this Ladie bright,
 And hes with hir ascendit to the hall,
 720 Whair the King was with monie lord royall,
 And eike the Queine with monie ladie fair,
 All still abyding on thair cuming thair :

For the King was never into houſhold,
 Within four hundereth [of] Knightis bold ;
 The Queine alſo, as fayis myne Authore eike,
 Was never within ane hundereth Ladies meike.
 Scho faluft hes the King full courteſlie,
 And he did hir refave richt gentillie,
 And kiffit hir, faying, Madame, but dreid
 730 Full welcum beine to us ȝour nobilheid ;
 For we have longit all in this cuntrie,
 ȝour bright imperiall bewtie for to fe,
 Whom we of ſikane vertew hard reporte ;
 ȝe beine full welcum heir and all ȝour forte :
 Whairof echo thankit him full reverentlie.
 And fyne the Queine hir halfit womanlie,
 The quhilk full honorabillie did hir refave.
 The King hartilie refavit all the leave,
 And did them weleume with countinanc joyous,
 740 And ſpecialie the gud Clariodus ;
 He maid to him grit cheir and weleuming,
 Whom he defyrit to fe abone all thing.
 The King hes taine the Count of Eſtur land,
 And weill long ſpace flude with him commonand.
 The Queine hir ſelf and Dame Meliades,
 Held commoning on [the] moft gudlie wayis ;
 In whom the Queine ſik wit and nurture fand,
 Sik prudence and ſik vertew aboundand,
 Scho trowit, in wrold nether be north nor ſouth,
 750 Might not be fund in ſik ane tender ȝouth
 Sik wit, not ȝit ſik womanlie maneir ;
 Scho held hir thairfor abone all woman deire.
 Amongs all uther thingis, Earle Eſtur
 Schew to the King the pitious aventur,

And eike distreslis of this Ladie frie ;
 Whairat the King [foir] weipit for pitie.
 Thairefter faid he to Clariodus,
 Fair Sir, $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ e beine full welcum unto us ;
 For grit report I have hard of $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ow maid,

760 How in this world, that is baith long and braid,
 Leifis no Knight nobiller of renoume
 As $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ e that beine without comparifoun.
 Right fa I have hard now of new reports,
 How that $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ e, at the entrie of our ports,
 Aprovit hes fo weill and nobillie,
 And donne fo fair ane deid of chevalrie,
 That it war mervell fik ane to be feine,
 We thinke be $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ow our court all honorit beine.
 When that the King had of his talke all fynit,

770 Clariodus him thankit and low inclynit,
 Saying, War I of fik [hie] prafe and fame,
 Lyke as $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ our Henes gives to my name,
 I war all $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ouris without ony dreid
 Alse long as I might ryde or fit on steid.
 The King imbracit him with tendernes,
 Saying, Also I thank $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ow of $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ our ches,
 That out of Cyprns to the Queine $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ e fend ;
 $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ our fredome beine full gritlie to commend,
 For it ane royall present was and gift,

780 To geive to ony Queine under the lift.
 Thus cherifit he Clariodus full fair,
 With wordis that war sweit and debonair.
 The King hes him aquentit haistilie
 With all the knightis of thair companie ;
 And thay have with the Kingis court also
 Aquentit them, and femblit two and two.

They can disport and speike of diverse things,
 So that the mekill hall with joy all rings
 Of minstrallie and uther mirthes eike;

790 Na folace beine amongis them for to feike.
 To chalmer [fyne thay] went, and thair ane space
 Abaid thay quhile the supper redie was,
 The grit triumphis and burdes coverit beine.
 Then to the hall is went baith King and Queine,
 And eike this princes digne and honorabill.
 The nobill King anone begane the tabill,
 Befor him set Meliades the scheine ;
 Into ane ehyre abone him sat the Queine ;
 At the buird heid they set the Earle Efture ;

800 Syne everilk lord and ladie in ordour,
 Efter thair awin degreis war thay fet.
 Ay at the dyfe ane knight and ladie met.
 The Conflabill hes taine Clariodus,
 And his foure fellowis that war chevelrus,
 And all the knightis of his companie,
 And led them to ane chalmer full glaidlie,
 And feiflit them on mervellous maneir,
 All haill with diligats and courfis feire.
 Then maid thay joy and fuire ryght mirrilie,

810 And menstrellis fang and playit curioufflie.
 Alse of the letter course they servit ware,
 All be sex plesant ladyis of bewtie cleire,
 And with aucht knightis convoyit royallie
 And awght squyeris [that were] geing and lustie,
 Come to the King, and thair ane Poune present,
 Saying to him thir words in verament,
 Sir, to this Poune ge do as it effeiris.
 This nobill King quhen he thir wordis heiris,

Upon this wayis, quoth he, heir I avow,
 820 Unto the Poune and Ladyis unto gow,
 The fairest justing the morne I fall devyfe
 In honour of Madame Meliades
 That ever was into my tyme in France,
 Thairin fall be no let nor variance.
 When this was faid, the Ladyis reverent,
 Unto the Queine the Poune thay did prefent.
 And I avow, unto the Poune, quoth sche,
 When Sir Clariodus fall mareit be,
 That I and all my Court ane feift fall make,
 830 For him and for his soverane Ladies faike.
 The Poune was set befor Meliades,
 The quhilke demurelie spak on this wayis ;
 Heir I avow unto the Poune but dreid,
 When everilk Knight is armit upon steid,
 Ester my cuming I fall them espy,
 And quha with lance [than] provis most worthy,
 I fall gif him this hat upon my heid.
 And with that word scho wox a litill reid.
 The Poune was borne before the Earle Eftur.
 840 I fall avow, quoth he, [and that] most suire,
 For to behold and se on biffie wayis
 Of everilk justing and haill interpryse,
 And quhaſa paſſis other in bountie,
 I fall declair if it be ſpeirit at me.
 And fyne unto the Countes of Eftur
 The Poune was borne ; and scho with ſpeach demure
 Said to the Poune, I vow and heightis thus,
 At mariage of my fonne Clariodus,
 In my beſt cloathing I fall me aray,
 850 And never mair againe after that day ;

I falbe furrit then with grice allone,
 For now the bē of my gouthheid is gone.
 Syne efter this the Poune went throw the hall,
 And thay richt honorabillie avowit all.
 Syne to the Conftabillis chalmer [they] it baire,
 And said to him, My Lord, aqyute gow thair.
 I [fall] avow, quoth he, quhen everie Knight
 On the jufling day fulbe arayit richt,
 That fax Knightis I fall put from thair steidis,
 860 Or them unhelme, thoght thay be cleir in weidis.
 The Powne they buire befor Clariodus,
 And he with gudlie maner speikis thus ;
 Heir I avow, upon the jufling day
 That I fall just, if weild ane speire I may.
 Then hes the Ladyis to Sir Amandour
 The Powne presentit, and set it him before.
 And I avow, quoth he, upon the greine
 When everie Knight on horse inarmit beine,
 From aucht Knightis I fall ftryke [doun] awcht scheilds,
 870 And fkatter them full wyde into the feilds.
 And to Palexis they the Poune [did] bring.
 I avow, quoth he, to Cupide lovis king,
 When everilk Knight enarmit beine in weids,
 That nyne Knightis I fall ftryke from thair steidis.
 Unto ane French Knight [then] the Powne brocht thay,
 That was full feare and hardie at assay,
 The quhilk Sir Charles height De les Carere.
 And I avow, quoth he, on this maner,
 When all fellowis beiris plait and maill,
 880 Than [ten] Knightis in preife I fall affaill,
 And ten speiris eik I fall breke affunder,
 Or sum of us fall ly our steidis under.

Then to Sir Broune [hecht] de la Amouris
 The Poune they brought, for he was amourus ;
 The quhilk avowit ane gantellit to weir
 Upon the hand quhairwith he ran his speir.
 Sir Penment de Carare, [ay] bold and wicht,
 Nixt him avowit as ane lustie Knight,
 That he sould be enarmit all in greine,
 890 For the love only of his Ladie scheine.
 All thair avows war long for to declaire,
 How everilk Knight avowit that was thaire.
 When that the Knightis had avowit all,
 The Ladyis buire the Poune unto the hall,
 Whair that they lewch with heartis glaid and licht,
 Rehearsing the avows of everilk Knight.

When all was rissine and gone from supper,
 Unto Clariodus on this maneir
 The Constabill said, Be gour avow it seimis
 900 Je fall not just the morne, for so men deimis.
 Then said Clariodus, Not just I may,
 For I am hurt upon the hand perfey
 With [the] fex Knightis at our last justing.
 And quhen it was rehearfit to the King,
 He was forsuith thairof nothing joyous ;
 For he had rather feine Clariodus
 Ane speir have run all right and under scheild,
 Nor all the Knightis that wald cum to feild.

With this thay all unto thair chalmer went,
 910 Up gois the sound of hevinlie instrument.
 Lordis and Ladies anon gois to the dance ;
 The nobill King with gudlie countinane
 Meliades hes taikine by the hande ;
 Clariodus the Quein at his command ;

And syne the nobill Lord [the] Constabill
 Led the Countes of Estur honorabill ;
 And uther Lordis ȝoung and rycht luftrie
 Gois to the dance with Ladies by and by.
 In joy and pleasour was the luftrie forte.

920 Thus quhill bed tyme full glaiddlie thay disporte.
 The Lordis then cauifit fetche spyce and wyne.
 Meliades tuik leave, to bed dreslit syne ;
 The Lordis eike at the King and [the] Queine,
 And went to chalmer with thir Ladyis scheine ;
 Whom to the Queine did say, I pray that ȝe
 Be airlie up, the justing for to fe.
 Madame, qwoth scho, I falbe, and bad gud night.
 And then anone to bed went everie Knight.

At morrow as the larke begowth to sing,
 930 Awalks the luftrie Lords and Knichtis ȝeing,
 That hes avowis maid on this maneir,
 And all anone thay beine enarmit cleir :
 Alfweith thay servit God and tuike difjune,
 And maid them redie for the counter soune.
 The King also was redie thame to fe.
 The Queine with great triumph and royltie
 Arayit hir the justing for to seine,
 With all hir luftrie Ladies [faire and] scheine.
 Hir goun was of the cloath of gold potent,

940 And circulat with stonis redolent.
 Full michtilie arayit was hir heid,
 Hir colour schein as rofis quhyt and reid.
 Scho wore ane croune of gold mekill of pryce,
 In quhilke thair schynit monie flour de lyce.
 Hir Ladyis war abulȝeit richlie,
 And put to poynt richt weill and royllie.

They servit God and disjunit fyne.
 Meliades, the lustie young Rosyne,
 As Mayis blosome newlie brokin quhyte,
 950 Adreslit hir as goddes of delyte,
 Arrayit hir as of Ingland the gyse,
 Becuming hir upon most gudlie wayis.
 Alse quhyt as snow of satine was hir gounε,
 Raifit with gold richt curious of fassiuone,
 With giltine traifis hang doun leming licht ;
 Hir hat was of the gold all birneift bricht ;
 Hir belt was all of michtie stonis plantit.
 No poynt of bewtie nature on hir scantit ;
 For scho hir paintit as Goddes devine,
 960 Alſe bright as Diane, or as Apolleine.
 In cloath of gold hir Ladies war besēme,
 Hir damosellis in quhyt satine scheine
 Arrayit war, in fuit all fair to se.
 This flour of ȝowth and Princes of bewtie,
 Unto the Queine scho went debonarlie,
 Hir followit all hir Ladyis by and by.
 The Queine commendit the gyse of thair clothing,
 And so did all the Court of Ladies ȝing.
 Syne furth they went all into ane greine meid,
 970 Whair hovit monie nobill Knight on steid,
 With speir in hand, [and] cumming for to range
 To the assay, that feimit nothing strange ;
 Whair that the King him self [alſe] thair abaid,
 With cloath of gold all flintit and overlaid.
 The Queinis scaffold neir besyd it stude,
 Whilk schynit all of pleasant pulcritude,
 With goldin torris and goldin chainis cleir,
 Whilk leimit licht as Phēbus in his speire ;

Thairin affendit hes the lustie Queine,
 980 Meliades and all hir Ladies scheine.
 The King gart in ane scaffold by him neir
 Earle Eftur sit, and auncient Lordis feir,
 For to be judge quha provit knightlief,
 And tell quha thair avowis keipit best.
 Unto the preife the pepill them adreſt,
 Thair heartis all in curage than increſt ;
 Thair bright enarming, cleir as [the] cristall,
 Against Phebus bright birned as bereall ;
 As glorious angellis thay gleimit on thair fteidis,
 990 Whill all the land leimit of thair weidis.
 Among them was Clariodus the Knight
 Inarmit on fteid, unwitting of ony wight ;
 The caufe thairof befor ge hard me fay,
 For thay all trowit he fould not juſt that day.
 Of all the rout was no man thair him knew.
 For, the more ftrange, of quhyt was all his hew,
 His fcheild, his fpeir, himſelf, and eike his fied.
 His fervitouris was in the famin weid.
 This Knight he held him quyet at ane fyde,
 1000 Beholding them quhilk ſtill did ay abyde.
 The Conſtabill com firſt to the affay,
 Full weill at poynt and in knightlie aray.
 He was all ower inarmit into blew ;
 His fervitouris war in the famine hew.
 He had into his thimber, fair be fight,
 Ane lustie madine with giltine traces bright,
 Hir geſtow hairis keaming as the wyre.
 As pecoke fethernum was hir buſke alſe faire ;
 Pouderit with ftonis as the hevinis fteſſat
 1010 About his helme ane cirkill deaureat.

His mightie speir he gripis in his hand,
 And as ane boare abraiding out of band,
 He spurrit forward his avow to hold.
 Sir Dovans de Lapri that was [full] bold,
 Sir Ronar, [and] Sir Lyon de Lamount,
 Sir Bruce de la Voy, thir foure in frunt,
 To hold thair avowis forward ar thay gone.
 Sir Amandur and Sir Palexis anone,
 Sir Broun de Lamours, and Sir Pennent alfo,
 1020 Richt wounder knightlie to the preise they go.
 Sir Charles de Lesterer lustie under scheid,
 Com with his fellowis lustie in the feild.
 Ower long it war thair namis for to note,
 Thay war ane royll companie God wote.
 All that [did] com of justeris to the meid,
 Full weill at poynt inarmit [wer] on fleid.
 Knightlie and fair the jufsing they begane ;
 Full monie fair and royll courfe thay ran.
 They met so feareelie that it was wonder ;
 1030 Both heir and thair the speiris gois in sunder ;
 Up gois the trenschers in the air on height,
 Doune gois the horfe and the inarmit knight ;
 Out gois the fyre from scheidis as reid as gleid,
 Off gois the helmis falling in the meid ;
 Syne gois the scheidis to brift in two ;
 The found of trumpits never could to ho,
 With weirlyk foundis could thay blow on height ;
 The knichtis met with monie ane hit unlicht,
 Whairof the rearde rafe with fike ane found,
 1040 Whill all at onis dynit Parice toun.
 Monie knightis was thair of full grit flench ;
 I can not shaw gow on ane dayis lenth

Thair nobill deidis richt nobill to praiſe,
 Nor as I aucht thair nobill faine up raiſe.
 Clariodus that faw the manlie faire,
 Within his breift his courage waxit maire ;
 Then he him put with them that war thairin,
 For he them waiker thought and waxand thin ;
 Doune gois the ſpeir [that was] both grit and wicht,
 1050 In gois the ſpuris that of gold was bright
 In the fydis of his ſteid, quhilk swiftlie rane,
 Thair he to juſt full royllie begane.
 Before his ſpeir the knightis gois to grund,
 Whill from the meid the helmes did redound ;
 Or he wald ref he ruffellit thair atyre,
 Out of the ſteill befor him flart the fyre ;
 The knightis lay befor him on the greine ;
 Might no man fit on fadell and fufteine
 His mightie ſtraike, bot him behuifit fall,
 1060 And he in fadell fat as ony wall.
 Thay thoght he fat on ſteid invifibill,
 As champion in armis invinfibill.
 Full corpolent he was with breift urfyne,
 With maſculine heart and ſperit leonine ;
 Fullfillit of vigoure and of fortitude,
 And he in formeheid full of pulchritude.
 Of his knighthed quhat beine thair maire to faine,
 His potent lanſe might no man fit againe,
 Sa fra thair ſteidis he maid them to declyne ;
 1070 As beiftis ſmall befor the wolfe rampine,
 Alſe faine they war his ſtroaks for to evaid ;
 Full roume wayis thay maid him quhair he raid.
 He all to fruschtit ſteidis on the greine,
 He tumit fadills to the number of fyftine

Right at his entrie within ane litill thraw,
That thay about had ferlie that him faw.

When that the King had feine his gudlie fair,
And how so wonder knightlie he him baire,
He ferliet grittumlie quha it fould be ;

1080 For never in all his lyftyme feine had he
Ane knight in armis prove fo worthilie.
Ryght so thoght all that plesand companie.
Full royll justing amongs them might be feine ;
For monie ane knight enarmit fair and scheine
Myght men behold [then] into the greine meid,
That duchtie war and valiant of thair deid.
The Lord Constabill he provit weill that day,
For monie ane faire courfe he maid perfay.
His vow he keipit as ane nobill knight ;

1090 For he devoididit of thair helniis bright,
Sax armit knightis [all] of grit valoure.
Sir Amandur full weill did his devoir ;
Sevin scheildis from sevin knights he frake.
And Sir Palexis strong as ony aike,
To grund he put nyne knightis from thair steidis ;
For he full worthie was in all his deidis.
And shortlie for to tell gow [all] the trewth,
Than everie knight aquyt [him] weill of flewth,
And his avow weill keipit that he maid ;

1100 And all that war about the famen faid,
And that befor that day thay never faw
Sa monie lustie knights rining on raw.
And moft of all the Quhyt Knyght is praisit,
Thay have his name to the staris rafisit ;
For on that day, his knightlie governance
Will never with them forgottine be in France :

For he, that was without comparisoun
 Than leveing under Mars his regiou,
 So wonder knightlie all the day continuit,
 1110 And eik so mekill travell he fusteinit,
 Unfatigat, unweirie, and unfaint,
 That I can not gow wryte nor ḡit depaint
 His worthie deidis and nobilnes at all,
 That beine of knightheid floure imperiall :
 For as the awfull lyoun beirs the croune,
 I meane of beifts, as terreftriall campioum ;
 So is he alſe ſtronge of all etheriall myndis,
 Beine lord and king, thair prydē fo he declynis,
 As prince of knightheid and floure of chevalrie
 1120 Of all this wyde wold alluterlie.
 Grite ferlie had the King quhat he foulde be,
 That was of ſike aue wonderfull bewtie.
 He confidderit that the ſtrong Clariodus,
 Whilk holdin was of knightheid chevalrus,
 That day hadde he not juſtit nor borne ſcheild ;
 For gif that he that day hadde beine in feild,
 He wald but dreid have ſaid it had beine he ;
 The King hadde full grit plefance him to fe.
 The Queine alſo full gritlie did him prafe,
 1130 And unto faire Meliades ſcho fays,
 What thinke ſe of the Quhyt Knight of renowne,
 That now he is of gon ſtrong faſſioum ?
 I traift firmlie that he fall have ḡour hat.
 Thus raillit hes the Queine, and lewch thairat.
 Meliades then ſaid, ſmyling alyte,
 If he it wyn, he fall it have alſe tye.
 Rycht full glaid ſcho was and rycht joyous,
 For weill ſcho wifit it was Clariodus,

Scho knew him be his varlot Bonvaleir.

1140 Scho was displeasit eike in sum maneire,
 That he nothing before unto his schew,
 That he unto the justing wald perfew.
 His Father eik him knew be his fassoun,
 And had grit plesance of his hie renoune
 That he hard gevin him in everie syde.
 What fould I longer in this thing abyde ;
 The justing still induret quhill the nicht,
 That to his Innis bounit everie wight.
 The King discendit thair incontinent ;
 1150 Grite number of torches hes before him went
 Fast to the Palice, for gone was dayis light.
 The Quene, and alse Meliades the bright,
 Discendit soune with all thair ladyis faire,
 And to the palice did with joy repaire.
 Clariodus is to his chalmer gone,
 And thair he hes unarmit him full soune ;
 And thair he did on him full lusillie
 Ane plesant goun of velvete cramoisie,
 And on ane hearpe begouth he for to play,
 1160 As at the justing he hade not beine that day.

And then the King, quhilk no tyme forgot myght
 The nobill deidis of the ilke Quhyt Knight,
 He gart fourre privie snyueris to him call,
 And bade them doe thair bissnes at all
 Full knowledge for to get of his ludging,
 And great him heartilie with all cherisung,
 Him praying to cum unto the Palace,
 And him disport with joy and folace
 With knightis and with ladies of bewtie,
 1170 Saying, That welcum in the courte is he.

The four fquyeris paflit at command
To the oftlaris but farder demand,
As he them bade this Knight to feike ower all.

The King is enterit in the mekill hall,
With monie ane lord full mekill of renoune,
And richt glaiddie to supper [they] can boune.

The Queine in chalmer vestit hir all new
Into ane luftrie goune of velvete blew,
And coverit all with orpharie faire ;

1180 Eike all hir ladies changit gonnis thair.

Meliades hir vestit in ane goune
Of greine velvete, full gudlie of fassoune,
Circumferat with flosis casting licht ;
About hir neke ane chaime of gold [full] bright.

Hir hairis bright that nature fpan fo cleire,
In anreat trefis hang doun circuleir,
Full angell lyke, that fehynit fcho with gleimis
In orient bright with Phebus goldin beamis,
Doun fchading from hir face, that was alse quhyte

1190 As the illustar lillie of delyte.

Ane rich cornall about hir hair was fet,
With radious ftonnis mightilie overfret.

What fould I tell of her feminitie ;
Scho fstrave with Venus in hir bright bewtie.

Away thou Lucres with thy plesant eine,
And with thy bright hairis thou Palexine,
And thou faire Heline with thy hairis quhyte,
And Candas with thy culoure of delyte,

And with thy rewth thou [chait] Penelope ;

1200 For all this, [ffull] fcho might gour princes be,
In vertew, bewtie, and of womanheid,
Gour cleir lodstar in everie luftrieheid.

Hir ladies changit weidis thair also,
 And to the Queinis chalmer two and two
 Hir followit all hir damofellis be pairis,
 In greine fatine and gold traced hearis,
 With pearle scheaplet thair hearis set above.
 Meliades with hir [fair] court of love
 Com to the Queine, quha did hir weill behold,
 1210 Commending thair hir bewtie monifold.

And thus thay past the tyme as was the gyfe.
 With that the justeris upon gudlie wayis
 Enterit within the Palice of renowne,
 With weirlyke noysis and victorious founde
 Of clarions, trumpits, and loud minstrelly.
 The heraldis with ane loude voyce thay cry
 The namis of thir lords with grit clamouris,
 Under thair grit and mightie coat armouris.

The King was fet to supper at his tabill,
 1220 With plesand lordis and ladies amiabill.
 The justeris in thair chalmeris soupit all,
 Ilk ane with other maid dispore royall,
 Of minstrallie and uther grit plefance.
 And eike the Lord Constabill of France
 Into his chalmer soupit hes also ;
 And of his companie was none him fro
 That with him soupit had the night before,
 Bot Sir Clariodus ; and he thairfore
 Displeasit was sumthing in his intent.
 1230 And as the Prince moft [hie and] reverent
 With all his lordis in hall had soupit neire,
 In com the foure squeryeris all in feire,
 Quhom that the King unto the Quhyte Knight fend,
 Sir, said thay, We mak it to be kende,

That of the Quhyte Knight \ge fall have tyding ;
 Of him we have sum knowlege and witing ;
 And if \ge will that schawin be his name,
 Clariodus he height of mikill fame.
 And quhen the King this harde he was full blyth ;
 1240 Syne to the Count of Efur turnit sfeith,
 And said, Fair Coufing, have \ge knowleging,
 Quha was the Knight in quhyte at [the] justing.
 No Sir, he said. Then I fall tell, said he,
 It was Clariodus \gtrsim our sonne perdie.
 Glaid was the King, and he commandit than,
 That the foure fquyeris in all the heast thay can
 Sould go anone and fetch the Quhyte Knight.
 They but more, with torches birnand bricht,
 Soun in the chalmer of Clariodus
 1250 They enterit ar, and said unto him thus,
 My Lord, \gtrsim our secreits no longer may be coverit,
 \gtrsim our counfall is [all] to the King discoverit ;
 Heir ar we cumit at his Hienes command
 For \gtrsim our Lordschipe. Quoth he, Without demand
 I fall obey him quhill I am on lyve.
 Togidder are thay paſſit on belyve.
 Clariodus nocth enterit in the hall
 Whill soupit had this [gude] Prince royll ;
 Bot in the chalmer of the Lord Conſtabill
 1260 He enterit with thir Lordis honorabill.
 The Conſtabill, quhen he did him espy,
 Up lap he from the table demurely,
 And met him, faying, Quhyte Knight ! Quhyt Knight !
 Of all the world the mirrour fchyning bright,
 In fame of knightheid and of chevalrie
 The reſt exceeding ſo excellentlie ;

It feimit nocth *ȝour* hand was hurt to-day,
 Whilk *ȝour* companionns testifies perfay ;
 It had beine gud for all the companie,
 1270 That *ȝour* hand had not hellit so fiddanlie.
 He fet him at the begyning of the tabill,
 And feasfit him with cheir [richt] amiabill.

The King causit awecht awntient Knightis go,
 And tiske with them cuning heraldis two,
 And bad them be advyfit on the Knights deidis,
 Quha war maist valiant [that day] on thair steidis,
 And quha maist worthie war of [hie] renoune.
 Thir auntient Knightis of discretioun,
 Ar paslit furth at command of the King,
 1280 With the heralds to advyse on this thing.

The King was servit with meitis amiabill,
 Almailt his courfis was innumerabill.
 The hall owerschynit [all] with torches bright,
 That thame among it feamit dayis licht.
 The intermeifes long war for to tell,
 On quhilks as now I mynde not for to dwell.

The King, quhen he hade souppit, went anone
 To his chalmer, quhilk [all] of torches schone.
 The antient Knights and the heraldis eike
 1290 Com to the King, and said with wordis meike,
 We wald have *ȝour* advice. Then said the King,
 Sirs, We have beine advyfit of this thing ;
 Sen *ȝour* defyre is my advyse to have,
 ȝe fall it heir anone, fa God me fave :
 Of them without, me thocht the Constabill
 The louing haill me thocht was most abill ;
 Of them within, it is ane mater plaine,
 Clariodus, of knightheid soverane,

Hes all the laude, quhilk knowis everie wicht,
 1300 As flour of armis and chevalrie full richt.

They answeirit, Sir, as \ge e have said, suithlie
 So it is jugit amongs us veralie.

The King gart schaw this [jugement] to the Queine,
 Wha did gif ane hinger of gold most scheine
 To them, and bade them as thay list dispone,
 And gart twa Ladies of hiris with them gone.
 Unto Meliades have thay passit syne,
 And hir prefentit ane hat of leves greine,
 Lufsie, and said, Madame, \ge e knaw

1310 \mathfrak{Z} our awin avow. This Ladie, without aw,
 Hir hat of gold [scho gave,] and bade that thay
 Sould it full richtlie it dispone perfey.
 This lustie hat [all] of greine levis plet,
 Insteid of it upon hir heid scho set ;
 And with thir Knightis scho fent ladies two.
 And first unto the Constabill thay go,
 Saying, The Queine weill gretis \mathfrak{Z} ow, Sir Knight,
 And dois present this gudlie hinger bright
 To \mathfrak{Z} ow, my Lord, with greetings monie fold ;

1320 For to hir Grace suithlie it is told,
 That of the Knightis all that war without,
 \mathfrak{Z} ouris beine the praiile and louing haill but dout.
 Then the Lord Constabill full reverentlie
 Thankit the Queine, and said full humbillie,
 Thair was full monie Knightis of renowne,
 To quhom I may be na comparisoun :
 Bot sen the Queine [out] of hir nobilnes
 Rewards me so, I with all humbilnes
 Will it resave, for faike of hir Henes,
 1330 Whom God preserve in joy and lustines.

Two diamonts he gave the Ladies two,
 And kisst them or he wald pairt them fro.
 The Heralds he rewairdit with monie,
 And gave them gold that was [rycht] fair to se.

Syne ar thay passit to Clariodus,
 Him greeting [eik] with countinance joyous.
 Thay him presentit [then] the hat full cleire,
 And said, Meliades with glaidsum cheire
 Sent it to him, faying, The Ladies all

1340 Him jugit to be most victoriall
 Of them within, and most of hie renoune
 Of all the justeris but comparisoun ;
 And told that so him jugit King and Queine,
 Lordis, Ladies and Knightis all bedeine.
 Clariodus with wordis richt bening,
 Joy everlasting, he said, be to the King,
 And to the Queine, and faire Meliades,
 And all the Lordis that on fike wayis
 That gave me name fike as I did not serve ;

1350 God give me grace thair thankes for to deserve.
 I dar not tak on me this to refave,
 Nor for fike cause fike ane reward to have ;
 For thair war monie and better knights nor I,
 Quhilk to refave this gift beine more worthy.
 Schortlie to tell, no thing might him excuse,
 Bot to refave thair present he behuise.
 He gave them thankis oft and courtefelly ;
 Syne kisst he the Ladies by and by,
 And gave ilk ane of them ane chaine of gold ;
 1360 Syne to the awcht ancient Knightis bold
 He gave awcht courfouris lustie for to se ;
 And to the Heralds in grit quantitie

He gave of gold and silver full largelie,
 And two gounis of cloath of gold mightie.
 Thay cryit Larges ! [Larges !] hé on height
 Of Sir Clariodus the gentill Knight.

Then begouth minstrellis lustilie to play,
 And lustie wichts the dance begouth to say.

The King commandit Clariodus to take

1370 Meliades, ane beafe dance to make,
 And bad the Constabill go leade the Queine,
 And he him self did lead ane madine scheine.
 And quhen Clariodus had be the hand
 Meliades, he soune did understande
 That scho at him displeaseit was alyte ;
 Whairfor his heart beine full of wo and fyte,
 And wox so sadlie that mynd he hade of nocht,
 Bot how into hir favour cum he mocht.
 When thay had dansit so ane litill space,

1380 They sufferit utheris to go into the beace
 Whill thay reposit beine. And fuith to tell,
 Clariodus abake went be him fell
 Behinde the danfers, and in ane windo fate ;
 Grite was the dollour that his heart was at,
 He durst not speir at hir quhairfor or quhy
 That scho was wroth, love so victorioufie
 Him vinquist in his breift ; and at the last,
 Quhan that ane stound or twa had him owerpaft,
 He tuike him hardiment, and thus said he,

1390 Madame, I thanke gow, so mot God me le,
 Of the gudlie present ge to me fend,
 The quhilke I fall unto my lyves end
 Remember with my service at my might.
 With soft speech then answeirit scho hir Knight,

Clariodus, no thanksis gif me to,
 Sen that I was avowit fo to doe.
 Be hir wordis hir grivance weill he knew,
 Whilk did his woe quadruple [now] of new.
 Madame, said he, to me dislimull nocth,
 1400 If that at me displeasit ȝe be ocht ;
 Weill knew I be ȝour wordis in this place,
 That sum pairt now I stand out of ȝour grace.
 Quoth scho, Bot at myself I am displeasit.
 Clariodus in heart the worse was easit,
 And said, Madame, if that it war ȝour will,
 ȝour displeasour I wald ȝe schew me till ;
 And if that ȝe not please for to do fo,
 Into sum strange cuntrie [then] will I go ;
 I will not heire remaine and ȝow displeife,
 1410 To do ȝow grevance and myself uneife ;
 [And] best it war me think, for to doe fo,
 Nor ȝow displeife and [alſe] my felfin flo ;
 One ſkaith is les nor two ȝe may beleive,
 My paine I reput not unto ȝour greive.
 Bot quhen scho hard tell of his depairting,
 Hir heart wox cold, and furth ane figh did bring.
 Full red scho was that he foulde pas hir fro,
 For weill scho trowit that it foulde have beine fo
 Bot gif he gat hir peace ; quhairfore, quoth scho,
 1420 Clariodus, fen that it man be fo,
 That ȝe will wit now quhat I have in mynde,
 No thing I meane bot that ȝe ar unkynde.
 Fair Sir, or now [oft] I have feine the day,
 [That, having come, thocht ȝe war far away,]
 ȝe wald me bid ȝour culour chose and waill,
 Seing in tornament it might prevaill,

And comforte *ȝow* my livery for to weire;
And now I se fike uſes *ȝe* forbeire.

At this iuſting *ȝe* liſt not to diſdaime,

1430 Unto my fight and preſence to atteine,
Nor let me wit if *ȝe* wald iuſt or nocth;
The quhy I have confidderit in my thocht;
Heir beine Ladies [that ar] fairer nor I,
ȝow to direc*t* in way of chevalrie,
Whom with ever *ȝe* [now] advyſit be,
Sumtyme *ȝe* war advyſit bot with me.

And quahan ſcho had ſaid all, Clariodus
Upon his kneis fate doun all dolorus,
To ſchaw hir his intent in humbill wayis;

1440 And ſcho anone hes maid him for to ryſe,
And ſtand beſyde hir as he did before.
Quoth he, My Lady, to quhom I ever more
Have beine ane trewthfull ſervitor and man,
Sen firſt to love or ſerve *ȝow* I begane,
Treft weill in me thair is no variance;
Never could I deale with diſſimulance;
I liet never in earneſt to na wicht,
Than unto *ȝow*, my heart and Ladie bricht,
Why ſould I do ſo curſit ane treafoun?

1450 Fy on fike feingit falſe perdiſioun!
ȝit ſchope I never no wicht for to deceave,
Sike longis to ane harlot or ane knaive,
And to no wicht that lovis his honoure;
For ſo mot God giſ to my faule ſuccoure,
As ever I lovit uther Ladie *ȝit*
Bot only *ȝow*, ſen firſt I did promit
To be *ȝour* ſervant and *ȝour* [ain] trew Knight,
The quhilk I falbe ever after my might

But flight or ony dislimulatioun,
 1460 As God alse trewlie be my saluation :
 And in so far as I nocht to gow schew,
 That I this tyme to justing wald perfew,
 Treft not that I of male ingyne it wrocht,
 Quhilke enterit never nor fall into my thocht,
 And never geilds ; git I gow mercie cry,
 Now of fleuth and ignorance that I
 So me misgydit in my raklefnes,
 Forgive me, Ladie, for gour gentilnes,
 And of gour rewth and womanlie pitie,
 1470 That ge no longer have no hait at me
 In this mater ; and thoght my wite was dull,
 It falbe efter amendit at the full.
 With that he fate upon his kneis adoune,
 Asking hir mercie [pitie] and pardoune.
 Scho is content quhen [he] hir mercie cryit ;
 And eike scho be his countinanc espyit
 That he displeasit was and wo begone,
 And uther thing fave trewth he meinit none.
 Then was hir breift affwagit of all thing ;
 1480 Bot feho hir heart sa fare had donne refing
 Unto hir Knight, that [it] atoure mealoure
 Maid at hir heart of jelosie ane schoure,
 Whairof the straiken and unsufferabill [ftound]
 The breift affaillis quhair love dois fo abound.
 In heart then was feho glaid and rycht joyous,
 And faid, My only Knight, Clariodus,
 Sen it is fo, I heir forgeive gow fall,
 And af his knie thair raifit him at all.
 And this was donne and that fo prively,
 1490 That naine of them persavit standing by ;

For with two loveris, being of ane consent,
Full fecreitlie monie ane gait is went.

Then turnit he againe unto the dance,
And tuike be hand this Ladie of plesance.
And with [new] curage danſit then thir two,
As thay that war relaxit out of wo ;
That then before with painis war opreſt,
And now againe with joyis new poſſeſt ;
Upon ſo fair and gudlie wayis they dance.

1500 Then faid the King, he never ſaw in France
So plefant danſeris, and more for to commend.

And quhen thair danſing all was at ane end,
Clariodus faid to Meliades,
Madam, I gart grath on [maift] gudlie wayis
Twentie fair robis all of fatine quhyte,
And wrocht all with orphand arte of delyte,
To give unto the Kingis Knights and gouris,
That freſcheſt beine all furrit with amouris ;
And if ge think the tyme war oportune,

1510 I wold gar fetch them or the danſe war donne,
And diſtribute them efter gour plesance.

Scho anſweirit him with gudlie countinancē,
Ryght honorabill is gour devyſe perſey,
I wald glaidlie have ane of gour aray
Intill ane hat of culour quhyte as floure.
Glaidlie, Madame, he faid, with grit honoure.
Unto the Conſtabill eik he this told,
Saying, My Lord, I pray gow that ge wold
Helpe me to diſtribute my livaray,

1520 And to beſeike the fellowſchipe that thay
Wald not diſdaine like gifts for to reſave,
Thocht they be fymples to like lyke men to have.

Quoth he, My brother, Sir Clariodus,
 Sen þe dispone to gif ane livaray thus,
 Me of þour livaray quhy will þe refuse,
 Sen I ȝow love as other Knightis dois.
 With that he lewch on him full joyouslie,
 For he him lovit ay full tenderlie.
 I please weill, said Clariodus, that þe
 1530 Formift of all into my livaray be,
 Seing that þe defyre it. Then ar thay gone
 Unto the Constabillis chalmer, and thar anone
 Devyfit they on this thing. Then Clariodus
 Sent for the robis that war pretious.
 To Bonvaleir he gave command anone,
 That he fould to the merchandis buithes gone,
 And bade that he fould by ane hat alse quhyte
 As is the Mayis blosome of delyte;
 And synge it geive to Romaryn in keiping,
 1540 And bad hir with it to hir Ladie ging.
 Then to the Constabill said Clariodus,
 Sen that þe beine so gentill and gratiouſ
 To be ane of our fuite, chosé þe anone
 Into this lovarray quha fall with ȝow gone.
 Then ten Knightis chosit the Constabill
 Out of the Court of France, [the] moſt abill ;
 Clariodus ten Knightis aveinand,
 The pik of Ingland and of Eſtur land ;
 Thair naimis heir neids not for to reporte,
 1550 The gudlieft thay war of all the forte.
 When that the Knightis war rewardit thus,
 Glaiddie thay thankit Sir Clariodus.
 Thir valiant Lordis vestit all in quhyte,
 Them to behold it was [ane] grite delyte.

The Constabill tuike ane torch bricht birnand,
 Clariodus ane uther in his hand,
 And all the leave hes torches taine also,
 And fwa went furth thir Knightis two and two,
 With hand in hand, all cled into ane suite,
 1560 Befor them ȝeid ane harpe and eike ane lute.
 Thay fand the King in joy and grite plesance,
 With Ladies enterit in ane carroll dance,
 Meliades full frefche leiding the ringe,
 With ane cleire torche, into hir hand, [birning,]
 With hir whyte hat on heid of rose culoure,
 And feho als fresh as is the lillie floure.
 Thair was the Queine into the danse also,
 And monie uther lustie ladies mo,
 And dansing, that to fe it was delyte.
 1570 The Knightis entering so in culoure quhyte
 The King beheld, and had ane grit pleasance
 To fe the gudlie gyse and countinance.
 Unto the Constabill and Clariodus
 He said, Fair Siris, fresh and amorus,
 ȝe have conseillit fra me this noveltie,
 ȝe beine all lustie danfers as thinkis me :
 Bot [weill] he knew that Sir Clariodus
 Thir quhyte livoras hes ordanit thus,
 Becaus that he the Quhyte Knight was before,
 1580 Him praiing in his mynde ay more and more :
 And all the maner eike perfavit he,
 How to Meliades of grite bewtie
 He sould be waddit ; bot he was wyse at all,
 And rewlit him as sould ane Prince royll.
 So in the midis of the jolifie,
 Thrie Counts are cumit that ar of grite degrie,

And in the Palice enterit ar anone ;
 The Counte of Deckare of the thre was one,
 The Counte of Diftempis and the Counte of Champanȝie,
 1590 Unto the hall ascendit ar all thrie.
 They helsit have the King on gudlie wayis,
 And eik the Queine and fair Meliades,
 The Counte and eik the Countes of Eſtur.
 The King, that was ane Prince of grite nurture,
 Hes them refavit on ane gudlie faſſoune,
 And weill them chereiſt efter thair renoune.
 Thair purpoſe was to beine at the juſting,
 Bot it all endit was or thair cuming.
 The danſe indurit long, and the diſpoſte,
 1600 The circumſtance war long for to reporte.

When day approachit neir, to beddis they went,
 Both King and Queine, Lordis and Ladies jent.
 Meliades hes taine her leave to gone,
 The thrie Countis convoyit hir anone
 Unto hir chalmer ; fyne tuike leave hir fro,
 And unto thair reſt they all thrie can go.
 Thus all to beddis went, and fleipit ſtill,
 Whill bricht Apollo ſchynit ouer holte and hill.

Right as the mirrie larke into the ſky
 1610 Aſcendit with ane joyous harmonie,
 When miſtie vapours ryſis from the vaile,
 And leavis hinging full of filver haill,
 And ſmall foulis delytis them to ſing
 Among the tender roſie blumis geing,
 Of freſch Titane all againis the fighte,
 From langour them comforting with [the] licht,
 This luſtie Prince no longer might he fleipe,
 Fra he unto the mirrie day tuike keipe,

Bot thocht he wold in hunting for to ryde,
 1620 And callit on ane varlote him besyde,
 And bade him gar his maisteris of household,
 To Boyce de Wincente, that luftie hold,
 Go and provide with everie ordinance
 Pertaining to his kinglie governance.
 This being donne, up raiſe baith King and Queine,
 With all his royll Courte richt weil beſeine,
 And ſervice harde with gude devotioune,
 And fyne of menſtrallie with merrie founde.
 Disjunit they baith lord and ladie bright,
 1630 And to thair horſe anone they can them dicht.
 With this unto the fair Meliades
 Bonvalier com to hir on humbill wayis,
 Saying, My Lord Clariodus me fend
 To ȝow, Madame, and doing recommend,
 Quhilke hes ȝow fend ane diamond full bright,
 Remembering that he is ȝour trewthfull Knight ;
 And he alſo hes fend to ȝow ane fang,
 The quhilke he maid rycht as the morrow ſprang ;
 He and his fervandis ar eled in levoray blew,
 1640 In tokine that he falbe ever trew ;
 If ȝe the eullour pleife, he bade me ſpeire.
 I pleife it weil, quoch ſcho, in all maneire.
 Seho tuike the ſong and diamonde alſo,
 And threw ane goldin ring hir finger fro,
 And faid, Anone preſent this to my Knight,
 And thanke him of his gyftis all at ryght.
 Bonyaleir went and did as ſcho him bad.
 With this the luftie Courte, with hartis glaid,
 Muntit on horſe with weiddes freſch and gay.
 1650 Meliades, in nobill and rieh aray,

In bewtie blumit as blosome on the ryce,
 Triumphant as terreftrial paradice.
 To tell gow of hir fresh abuilgement,
 Or of hir palfrayis pretious ornament,
 It war prolix, thairfor I let it go.

This nobill Courte and Prince furth ryding so,

Up to the hevin gois the trumpits sound,
 Up gois the curious sound of clarion,
 With hornis blaft they cheir the hardie houndis,

1660 Whill Parice wallis reardit with the soundis.

So furth thay raid at the ports of the toun,

On fra the royll Palice of grite renoune.

Clariodus cled in ane mantill blew,
 With his four fellowis alfe in the ilke hew,

Full rich furrit with mertrix that is fyne,

Upon ane curfour, with heart leoneine,

The quhilk Madame Meliades him gave,

Softlie he raid quhill he owertuike the leave.

Him followit varlots awcht in blew all clede,

1670 On wantoun curfouriis fate and full weill fede,

With silver changeis about thair halfe full bright.

Aucht gentill men, that luffie war and wight,

He hade also all cled in dameis blew,

With golden changeis that war bright of hew.

Into the Courte he raid. His luffie entrie

It was ane fight full gudlie for to fe.

The King him callit, [and,] but mair abaide,

Clariodus, tell me, anone he faid,

The maner of the tornament in Spaine;

1680 [And] quha did best to me do ge not faine.

Weill wist the King the haill renoune hade he,

At the ilk justing was so fair to fe.

Ane litill reid than wox Clariodus,
 And to the King he hes maid answeire thus :
 Sir, if that I the treuth fall $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ow declare,
 Full monie mightie and nobill knight was thaire,
 That so weill provit, that harde was for to tell
 Whilk of the forte in chevalrie did excell,
 Althoght the ladies, of thair courteffie,

1690 To sike ane honour did me magnifie,
 As for to gif the laude and praise to me ;
 $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ it I deservit it in no degrie,
 For monie aye Knight thair better was nor I.
 Then said the King, I traist ryght veralie,
 That men full far might feike, or that they fand
 Ane Knight that ware of deidis $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ a valiand,
 To wine renoune in armis $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ow before.
 Of other diverse materis spake they more.
 The King so gentill was in commoning,
 1700 [That] thair was none of honoure, old nor $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ing,
 Of all the Knightis of Meliades,
 Bot he with them at leafoure did advyse.
 And quhen this royll Courte of nobilnes
 War cumit to Boyce de Vinsentes,
 From horse all doun [thay quicklie] did descend,
 And in the mightie Palace as they wende
 The Ladies all ar unto chalmer gone,
 The nobill King to hall is went anone.
 The wallis ware arayit full lustillie,
 1710 With rich arace [that] thar war full mightie ;
 The hall was mikill and [eik] full of licht.
 And quhen the denner was all redie dicht,
 The King fent to [the] chalmer for the Queine,
 And for Meliades the lustie ladi scheine ;

They com anone at his commandiment,
 Himself begane the buirde incontinent,
 And set abone him all the ladies faire,
 For he no stait wald let be keipit thaire.
 The ladies at his tabill grit and finall,
 1720 He gart be fete, thoght they refusit all.
 The Count of Eftur, and the Lord Constabill,
 Clariodus with uther lordis abill,
 Palexis and his brother Amandur,
 With thair two fellowis of grit honoure,
 Sir Pennent de la Carier full famous,
 Sir Charles, Sir Broun, and eike Sir Donaus,
 And all that longit to Meliades,
 He hes gart [thame] be fet in gudlie wayis
 At his awin tabill, thocht thay refusit thairto,
 1730 His bidding git behuifit thay all to doe.
 He thair hes maid him fellow and no king,
 As myne awthour hes maid [trew] rehearsing.
 He was both manlie, wyse and gratious,
 He could be mirrie and folatioun
 Whair that him lift, for till make companie.
 The courfis com right fair and royllie.
 The King wold not fit long in that degrie,
 So longit he the royll chafe to fe
 Of fellow deire within his perke royll.
 1740 Then fuddantlie up ryfis ane and all.
 The King twike be the hand Meliades
 Before them all, and said on this wayis,
 Faire Siris, ge fall know, that it is so
 That none [this day] fould into widdis go
 Without ane lady, and thairfor that I
 Of brightest bewtie chose me ane lady.

They leuch all at the King that raillit so.

Be this was faid, anone to horfe they go.
The nobill King ascendit on his fteid,

1750 And him behinde the floure of womanheid ;

Syne hes commandit Sir Clariodus
To take the Queine gudlie and gratiouſe
Behinde him on his horſe : and but demand
Thair hes he fulfillit the Kings command.
The Count Samphange with [alſe] biffie cure
Twike behind him the Countes of Eſture.
The Earle of Eſture twike behind him eike
The Ladie De la Carier fair and meike.
So everie lustie Lord and gentill Knight

1760 Hes horſit ane Ladie of beawtie bright.

Out of the royllal Palice have they paſt
With plesant ſound of [hunting] hornis blaſt,
And to the wodis raid full royllie,
Whair thay hade hunting right abouſtantlie.
It was ane nobill fight for to behold
The fair fresch forreſt and the florifchit fold,
The laitis fet with hunters of knowledge,
The eger hounds defyrouſe of courage.

Furth gois the dogis throw the ryſe on raw,

1770 The deir doun cumis dunting throw the ſchaw.
With How and Cry they follow them behinde.
The hunteris lurkis law under the lynde.
The heard in cumis. Fearfliſe but abaid
The hundis in thair leafches dois abraid,
Thair heartis dunting in breiftis for defyre.
Thus ſeing, the bukis go bak then in the fwyre
Be two and thrie, endlong the water fyde.
The hunds fra monie ane leafch dois out glyde,

That under the bewis beine loufit monie brace.

1780 The hunters glaidlie followis on the chafe.

Lo ! heir the hynde is letherit be the hunde,
And thair ane heart gois gronand to the grunde.
So this day fair quhat is thair maire to faine
Whill thay of deiris ane grit number had flaine.

Clariodus, that raid befor the Queine,
Had in his hand ane dearte both scharpe and keine,
That he was ufit ay weill for to cast ;
So com ane [deir] buke by him at the laft
Into his way [and] halfling him againe.

1790 Madam, quoth he, pleis *ze* for to have flaine
ȝone faire deir buke that cumis in our way ?
I ȝow requyer, the Quene can to him fay.
He did his coursour with his spurris broch
Whill neir the buke swiftlie did he aproach,
And with sike force the darte did in him dryve,
Befor the Queine, that he fell deid belyve.
Lordis and Ladies that this thing hes feine,
Gritlie it praisit, and most of all the Queine
Hes him commendit into mikill thing.

1800 Ane Knight hes it reherfit to the King,
Quhilke rydand was before Meliades.
I know, quoth he, that mekill beine to praiſe
The deidis all of Sir Clariodus,
Whilke is both ſtrong, hardie and chevalrus.
This being ſaid, the King ſchuipe him to ryde ;
Clariodus he gart ryde him beſyde,
And bade him ſing. He ſaid, he wald anone,
For he of diſobedience maide none.
Then ſaid he to Meliades, Madame,
1810 Sing *ze* “Si je fuis touſjours a Madame” ?

Scho faid, Forfuih that song I can not sing.

Clariodus, let heir it, said the King.

On of his servitours he callit thane,

The quhilke ane tennour pleasantlie begane,

And he the truble sang rycht curiouſlie,

That it resoundit ane dulſe melodie.

The King grite plefance had it for to heire,

So had the Queine and all the ladies cleire.

When he had fung, the King faid, Verament

1820 This is ane lustie song, and right plesant;

This is ane ballet frefch and amorus,

Is it new maid? ſea, faid Clariodus.

Meliades then fmyllit, changing hew,

When that he ſpeirit if it was maid of new;

For the ilk song it was that he hir ſend

That day of morrow with ane recommend,

The quhilk Bonvaleir did to her prefent.

The King in muſike was intelligent,

He sang ane tennor to Meliades,

1830 And ſcho the trubill sang on gudlie wayis.

The thrie Earlis that cumit ware of laite

Did ſing alſo with voices dulcorate.

In cumpañies ouer all the courte they ſong,

Grite mirrines and joy was them among.

Thus pat thay off the tyme with faire paſtance,

With mirthful breiftis bathit in plefance,

While that they enterit at Parice portis bricht;

And throw the ryndis raid with heartis licht,

As thay that to the royll Palice tendit,

1840 Whill fra thair horſe alſweith they have descendit,

And enterit all in thair chalmers anone,

Whill tyme was unto ſupper for to gone.

The King, that ever in honour did excell,
 Them feislit faire, the trewth if I foul'd tell,
 Ane monethes space, with like triumphhe and cheir,
 That none on lyfe under the fune so cleire
 More plesance hadde, nor levit in more joy,
 Nether in land of Greife, norȝit in Troy.
 And quhen the moneth aprochit neir to ende,

1850 The Ladie purposit then hame to wende,
 And garte hir folke make readie in all thing,
 Againe the day of hir depairting.

So happinit in the meine tyme to be,
 Ane herald cumit out of Ingland cuntrie
 Thair from the King unto Meliades,
 And in hir chalmer as fcho did up ryfe
 He enterit, and hir salust courtefie,
 Saying, The King ȝour Father ryght heartilie
 Commendis him to ȝow, and eike the Queine,
 1860 The quhilkis for ȝow grite langoure dois fussteine.

Thay have me chargit hame ȝow for to speid ;
 For thair is cuming withoutin ony dreide
 Thrie faire ambaffants from thrie fundrie Kings
 For ȝour wadding. Outower all uther things
 Thay ȝow defyre ; but nevertheleſe the King,
 Into that mater worke will he nothing
 Whill ȝour hame cuming, and quhill that he have
 [Advice] of Earle Eſtur ; fa God me fave,
 Without his counſall he will doe nothing.

1870 And quhen this Ladie hard of the tyding,
 Sum thing fcho was into her heart adreid,
 Believing to sum King thay foul'd hir wade ;
 Whilke rather wald be deid, without feingeing,
 Nor of the world to have the gritteſt King

And leive Clariodus hir onlie Knight.

Fair countinunce scho maid git at [hir] micht,

Saying, My frind, welcum ge ar to me ;

Thankit be God, of the prosperitie

Both of my Father, and of my Mother eik ;

1880 To fave them two, Lord Jefus I besike.

Me for to wade quhen ever that they will,

I falbe reddie thair counfall to fulfill.

Within thrie dayis we fall out of France

Depart, God willing, but more circumstance.

When this was faid, to Earle Efurst he went,

And in this mater schez all his intent,

And all this thing to him maid manifest ;

Syne went unto ane Offlarie to reft.

The mariage of [the] faire Meliades

1890 Into the Court hes spred on fike ane wayis,

Whill it come to Clariodus audience,

Whilke throw his breif withoutin resistance

As grundine dairte then awfullie did glyde.

With fade thochtis his mynd was occupyed.

He was dispairit and right fore adrede,

Evin that the King her Father fould hir wade

Upon ane of those Princes right potent ;

Besikeing God full oft in his intent,

On fike ane wayis that it fould not proceid.

1900 This Ladie eike, that leives in fike ane dreid,

Ever to God scho prayis devotlie

To fend hir him quhome that so [richt] trewlie

Scho lovit ay, and fould quhill scho might left.

Thus, nather of thair heartis beine at reft,

To speike with uther desyryng so gritly

At lafoure, quhair no wight might [thame] espy.

Clariodus anone went to the King,
 Whilke then with his thre Counts wes advyfing.
 The King then drew aparte fra them anone,
 1910 And with Clariodus at lafoure spake allone
 Of diverse things ; and so amongs the lave
 He said, Clariodus, sa mote God me fave,
 I wald have gow stll in my Courte dwelling,
 Whilk my defyre is ower all uther thing.
 I heir now that Our Brother of Ingland
 Hes for his Doughter fent, [and] defyrand
 To have hir waddit at hir hame cuming.
 Clariodus, ge doe for me this thing,
 The quhilke anone I fall unto gow fay,
 1920 Be frefch and luftie on hir wadding day ;
 With that he smylit on him lustillie.
 Clariodus weill underftude the why,
 Whairfore, he said, and this he [sinyling] spake,
 Sir, gour command to fill I undertake ;
 For that ilk day full blyth I think to be
 Of everie knight in that ilke assemblie.
 Then said the King, God grant that it be so,
 That ware my defyre, and falbe ever mo.
 The King he thankit in all humbill thing.
 1930 Then to the Queinis chalmer went the King,
 And thair he fande the faire Meliades,
 To quhome sweitlie he said on this wayis,
 Madam Meliades, as I suppose,
 Of luftie princes ge [fall] have gour chosé ;
 Be not haistie, bot weill advysit be,
 And chuse ane valiant man in all degrie
 Of might ; for landis ge neid nocht to crave,
 Seing ane mightie kingdome that ge have.

Sir, *ȝe* know, scho answeirit, in all thing
 1940 I mone obey unto my Father the King.

Thus raillit he with hir full pleafantlie,
 And scho him answeir maid debonarlie.

When cumin was anone the latter day
 Of this moneth, withoutine mair delay
 Meliades unto the King is went,
 Saying unto him with full meike intent,
 Sir, I am readie to pase in my cuntrie,
 Gif thair be nocht ellis *ȝe* wald with me.

Madame, quoth he, gif so be that *ȝe* will,
 1950 Now hamewarte pase, God *ȝour* purpose fulfill,
 And *ȝow* conserve in plesance and in joy,
 I will my self in gaitwarte *ȝow* convoy.
 Thoght scho faid nay, and laith was thairunto,
 Was none excuse, bot [that] he wold it doe.

Then faid scho to the Queine, in humbill wayis,
 I thanke *ȝow* heire, Madame, ane thowfand fayis,
 Of the grite jentrice *ȝe* have schawin to me,
 Of *ȝour* hie honoure [and] nobilitie ;
 My Father hes me fend sex faire coursouris,
 1960 And sex haiknayis plesant attoure measouris ;
ȝe fall have sex of them, and I *ȝow* pray
 Them to refave ; and tho the Queine alway
 Excusit hir, *ȝit* scho maid sike instance,
 The Queine garte take of them delyverance.
 Thair sadillis war of cloth of gold full bright,
 Browderit with stonis radious and light,
 And they alse quhyte as onie snowis doune.
 The nobill Queine, that was of grite renoune,
 Hir thankit sweitlie, and gave to her also
 1970 Ane chaine of gold ; and fyne with heartis wo,

They kifflit utheris with teiris distelling.
 Scho tuike hir leave at Ladies auld and ȝing.
 Syne came the gudlie Countes of Eftur,
 And tuike hir leave with countinance demure
 Both at the Queine and at the Ladies all,
 And at the Kingis Court univerfall.
 Unto them all grite giftis gave the Queine.
 Meliades to clofe discendit beine.
 Syne at the Queine [his] leave tuik Earle Eftur,
 1980 And at hir Ladies plesant of portratour.
 And last of all, Clariodus the Knight
 Inclynit to the Queine, and bad gude nicht,
 To hir ay recommending his service.
 And scho againe upon full humbill wayis
 Said unto him, Ha ! Sir Clariodus,
 Faire weill, in world the Knight most gratiouis,
 And most of deidis famous and of pryse ;
 I am weill holdine unto ȝow oft syfe,
 The richeft jewell to the worldis end,
 1990 ȝe, the most nobill Knight, unto me fend.
 With that scho tuike thair of [the] bright gold cleire
 Ane verie lustie firmaleit most deire,
 And said, Clariodus, ȝe fall this take,
 And weire it in ȝour cuntrie for my faike.
 He thankit hir full courtefflie at all ;
 And then scho hes him kifflit anone withall.
 He tuike his leave at everie Ladie faire.
 The King was mountit on ane palfray thaire,
 Ane of the sex the quhilke Meliades
 2000 Gave to the Queine, quhilke mikill beine to praisie ;
 He said thay war ane gyft most honorabill,
 And thankit hir with wordis amiabill ;

He faid he wold with hir on gaitwart ryde.
 Not one of them no longer wald abyde ;
 Thay raid out throw the toune full royallie,
 With trumpit sound of hevenlie melodie.
 And quhen they war two mylls without the toune,
 The nobill King, most worthie of renoune,
 Tuike leave at hir, and gave hir ane colleir,
 2010 With curious worke that pretious was and deire ;
 And faid to hir, Madame Meliades,
 I me commend to $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ow on humbill wayis,
 Beseiking $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ow, the pearle of plesance,
 That $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ e wold have on ws rememberance ;
 $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ e spair ws not, for we all tyme ar $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ouris.
 This lufstie Princes, with changing collouris,
 Inclyning then, and reverencing the King,
 Thay kiflit thair, and [so] maid depairting :
 Syne kiflit he hir Ladies ane and ane.
 2020 The Count of Efture thair his leave hes taine,
 And his Countes ; and syne Clariodus,
 To whom the King, with wordis gratious,
 Said, Faire cousing, in heart I am full wo
 So fuddantlie that $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ e depairte me fro ;
 Thair leivis none in all this world so wyde,
 That is so welcum with ws to abyde.
 This Knyght inclynit law with reverence,
 And humblie thankit the Kingis excellence ;
 Saying, $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ our Hienes I thanke humbillie,
 2030 That hes me treitit heir so nobillie ;
 My service falbe $\text{\textgreek{z}}$ ouris for evermore,
 Whilke celfitude conferve the King of glore.
 With that he tuike his leave with courtes faire
 Both at the King and at the Lordis thaire,

And eik forget he not the Constabill.

Thir Knightis two with wordis amiabill
Tuike leave at uther, embracing tenderlie,
As thay that lovit uthers ay parfythie.

Depairtit fo thir Lordis of renoune,

2040 Eik my Lord fayis in his tranflatoun,
That from the King none unrewardit went,
Of all the Court nobill and excellent,
For unto them with grite humanitie,
He schew his regale liberalitie ;
The quhilk againe to Parice did returne,
And thay raid furth withoutin more sojorne.

This Princes and hir lustie companie

Unto thair cuntrie sped fo bissilie,
That to the fea they approachit belyve,

2050 They schipit all and fyne did [saif] aryve
In Ingland, whair on horfe thay have ascendit,
As thay that north into the cuntrie tendit.

Thus in thair voyage all was fair and well,
Whill, throw ane forreft as thay did travell,
They faw ane pailgeoun lustillie upftent,
Of filke all reide, that schew full redolent.

The Earle faid to Meliades the bright,
Behold, Madame, besyde gow stent on height,
The fairest pailgeoun that ever I faw with ey,

2060 What is within I reid we go and see.

Within the pailgeoun luikit thay anone,
And faw ane Knight thair ly with monie grone
Above ane bed that lustie was to feine,
Full richlie coverit all with fatine greine ;
Ane arrow flake into his soulder deipe ;
Befyde him fate ane Ladie doing weipe

So wofullie, that pitie was to fee.
 Meliades abaisit than was fche,
 And bade the Earle within the pailȝeoun go,
 2070 And speir the caufe quhairfore that he lay so,
 And quhy fcho was so wobegone ane wight.
 The Earle enterit and helsit hes the Knight.
 With febill voice he helsit him againe,
 Lyke as he hade felt unsufferabill paine.
 And then unto the damosell he said,
 If that ȝe pleise, [my] faire and lustie Maide,
 I wald ȝe did the caufe to me declaire,
 Whairfor ȝe weipe so pitioslie and faire.
 Then spake the Ladie, Sene that ȝe requyre,
 2080 I fall ȝow schaw, this is my brother deir ;
 We beine discendit of ane hous royall,
 For of our blude we stand imperiall
 In our cuntricallit Northumberland ;
 And he that was ane Knight full valiand
 Raid feikand adventuris in ane forrest dicht
 And met foure Knightis that was fearfe and wicht,
 Whilke semblit on him hes so cruellie,
 And he defendit him right nobillie,
 That of the foure thrie [had] he broght af lyfe,
 2090 The fourt then fled and let ane arrow dryve,
 Whilke hurte him in the schoulder as ȝe fe,
 The quhilk was lanfit with like destanie,
 That of the world the jentillist Knight but doubt
 Mone with his hande this arrow now draw out,
 Or than, alleace ! he leivis never more.
 The nobill Earle faw hir weipe so fore,
 Ladie, he said, comfort ȝow and be stille,
 Peradventure God hes send helpe ȝow till.

The Earle went to Meliades againe,
 2100 And hir declairit the haill mater plaine
 All worde be worde richt as the Ladie schez,
 Saying, Will [now] ȝour Knightis all perfew
 Whilk will the arrow draw out of the Knight?
 Thairof, I pray ȝow, said this gudlie wight.
 Sir Amandour then [first] the Earle did call,
 And unto him the cace declairit all,
 And prayit him to go and to affay
 For to draw out the arrow gif he may.
 Sir Amandour this answeir maid him to,
 2110 It noth effeiris fike things for to doe,
 And Sir Clariodus in the companie :
 Bot him the Earle treitit so nobillie,
 That he is went the mater to affay,
 Richt modeftlie withoutin grite delay,
 And pullit at the arrow with his hand ;
 Bot thair affweith impediment he fand,
 For him it wald not fteire out of the wounde ;
 The Knight full forelie schrinkit at the stound.
 Sir Amandur was in his heart full woe,
 2120 And furth out of the pailȝeoun can he go.
 With wordis wrath his Eame he could reprove,
 That fike ane mater unto him did move.
 Palexis past thairefter to affay ;
 Bot he might noth the arrow draw away.
 The ȝoung Knightis [then] preifit all aboute ;
 Bot for them all no way it wald come out.
 Than meiklie said Meliades, I pray
 That ȝe will caufe Clariodus affay.
 That war, quoth he, ane grite prefumtioun,
 2130 Efter so monie Knightis of renowne,

That I fould go affay quhair they have failȝeit.
 Bot his excuse [in] nothing him availlit ;
 Scho him commandit for his Ladies faike,
 The quhilke fcharplie unto his hearte did ftryke.
 Then lichtit he and in the pailȝeoun went,
 The Knight he helst and the Ladie jent,
 Saying, Faire Sir, cumin I am to sie
 Gif I may helpe ȝow of ȝour necessitie.
 Neir him he went with full grite humbillnes,
 2140 Haveing in God all houpe and confidence,
 To helpe the Knight ; of him he hade pitie,
 And softlie at the arrow pullit he.
 It com to him but preise or vehemence,
 Without obstatill or onie resistence.
 The bluide with that sprang out abondantlie
 Out of the wound, and bled continuallie ;
 Bot nevertheles the Knight on fute up stant,
 And thankit him full oft with all his heart
 Imbracing him, faying, Of Knightheid floure,
 2150 All haill ! the Eard awcht ȝow [for] to honoure.
 I thanke our gratiouſ God ane thouſand fayis,
 That hes ȝow fent to me upon this wayis
 To be my helpe, the quhilk nane ither might ;
 For it affayit hes full monie ane Knight,
 Bot none of them might it remeid bot ȝe,
 That is of Knightheid floure and A per fe.
 What is ȝour name, if that it war ȝour will ?
 And he anone anſweirit hes him till,
 Clariodus of Eſtur they me call,
 2160 ȝone was my Father viſite ȝow first of all.
 This Knight and eike the Madine humbill and wyſe
 Unto the Earle and to Meliades

Ar paſſit, and them thankit reverentlie,
 And fo did thay to all the cumpānie,
 Onlie for faike of Sir Clariodus.
 Syne to the pailgeoun mirrie and joyous
 They went, quhair that Clariodus thay fand,
 To ſtanche his [wounde] quhilkȝit was abydand.
 The wounde out ran with grite effusioune,

2170 Alfweith he tuike the ring of the Lyoun,
 And twichit it and ſtemmit it anone.
 Clariodus then to his horſe is gone.
 He tuike his leave, and eftir them he raide,
 Whilke them among grite avanceing hes maid
 Of him and of his hie renoune and prieſte,
 And how he gentill was at all devyſe.

This woundit Knight relievit of his woe,
 Commandit than fex knightis for to go
 And make his litter of gudlie faſlioune ;
 2180 And fyne thairin hes [he] garte lay him dounie,
 To have him to his friendis haſtillie,
 This Ladie [alſo] ryding neir him by,
 With all hir madinis [full] faire in feire :
 Thus hame he went, rycht gladsome of his cheire.
 Sir Brounar de la Haunt it was his name,
 Ane Lord he was of grite renoune and fame,
 Quhilk to Clariodus was eftirwarte,
 Ane fervitoure richt faithfull in [his] heart.

Clariodus hes ſped him haſtillie,
 2190 And foune he hes owtaine the cumpānie,
 And long with them raide ſpeiking to and fro ;
 And fyne unto Meliades can go,
 And ſpake of diverſe materis by the way,
 And of the woundit Knight eike ſpeak did thay ;

He tauld how he him stanchit of bleiding.
 To hir he said among all uther thing,
 Madame, ge fould be blyth and have courage
 That rydis hame now to ȝour mariage ;
 Fair Princes bydis [for] ȝour hame cuming.

2200 Scho answeirit him with wordis richt benign,
 Saying, Monie askis the thing thay not get ;
 To love and serve quho may loveris let?
 Quoth he, Madame, full suith it is ge fay,
 Bot ȝit me thinke that gude it war alway
 That ge providit war of mariage,
 Considering that the King is of grite age,
 And hes no bairnis bot your self allone.
 And that is suith, quoth scho, so mote I gone ;
 Thairfor ane thing at ȝow I will require,

2210 Whilke of gone Princes war it ȝour defyre
 That I fould marie, dissmull not at all.
 Quoth he, Madame, my wite it is bot small
 [Thus] the estaite of Princes for to judge ;
 Becaus as ȝit to ȝouth I beine ane fudge,
 And can not on so grite maters decerne,
 For my ȝoung counfall wyse men will disperne.
 And than, quoth scho, to this answeir ge can,
 Into this wrold of everie leving man,
 Whom wald ge tyteft hade me to his wyfe ?

2220 Quoth he, Grite Lordis wyfer be fike fyve
 The King your Father hes to his counfell,
 Whairfor in vaine it war for me to tell,
 For, as thay fay, is abiller for to be ;
 Whairfor, Madame, ge scorne to speir at me.
 Then said the Ladie, ȝe fast your selfe excuse,
 Of ȝour counfall fay on for ȝour behuise ;

For thocht \ge know not quhat the lordis ment,
 \ge know thairof quhat is \gour awin intent,
 Whom with \ge wold [that] I sould maried beine ;
 2230 Know \ge not eik the trew love us betweine ?
 Now go I alse neir \gow as [that] I may,
 To gar \gow sumthing in this mater fay ;
 And I remember that fike thing hes beine,
 Quhen thair was nothing spokine us betweine,
 Bot \ge wald answeir, and not be dangerous.
 I cry \gow mercie, said Clariodus,
 My mynde thairin rycht as my self \ge knew,
 Whairfore thair was no neid to \gow to schaw ;
 \ge can not weill confidder as I deime ;
 2240 And sen \ge will the futh that I expreime,
 Gif it sould be as I wald wisch, I say
 I wald no wight in world \gow had bot I,
 And thocht I speike fik words, \ge not disdaine,
 For grite defyre dois [ever] me constraine.
 To speik thir wordis, then said Meliades,
 My Knight, I thanke \gow on most humbill wayis,
 That \ge wold do me fike worships and honoure
 As me to wade, and \ge of knightheid floure.
 Full weill I waite, had \ge not lovit me,
 2250 \ge wald not ask with me to mariet be ;
 Bot I fa far beholdine ame trewlie
 Unto \gour Father the Count [maist] worthie,
 And alse unto \gour Mother the Countes,
 And to \gour selfe in love and worthines,
 I \gow promit I fall no husband have,
 Bot quhom \ge wald I hade, fa God me fave.
 I height to keipe \gow this promissioune,
 As I am Kingis dochter of renoune ;

Or I it breke ather for weill or wo,
 2260 I fall dreidles out of the countrie go,
 As I have done before tyme for gour faike ;
 And thairfor no displeifoure in hearte \ge take,
 Whatever \ge heir or se, \ge hold gow still :
 In signe that I this promeis fall fulfill,
 Ane ring of gold I gif gow heir, my Knight,
 And for my faike gour heart \ge hold on height.
 Clariodus the gold ring did refave,
 And courtefie he oft thanks to her gave,
 Saying, Madame, nixt God I awght to serve
 2270 And love gour Ladischipe quhill that I sterue,
 That hes me gevin sik consolatioun,
 Quhilke falling was in disperatioun.
 For gif I fall the trewth to gow declaire,
 My heart was full of dreid and [of] dispaire,
 Ay sen I tyding hard of gour wadding ;
 Whair I hade will to ligh, now may I sing ;
 And quhair I trowit langour fould me flo,
 \ge have delyverit me of all that wo.
 Of this mater as then thay spake no more ;
 2280 He let hir ryde ane litill him before,
 That schoe might talke with uther companie ;
 And he began to sing all secreitlie,
 For the grite joy was at his heart perfay.
 This lustie courte thay raide furth [all] the way,
 Whill thay com neire to Londoun the citie.
 Thair monie ane Lord that was of grite degrie
 Them met triumphantlie without the toune,
 Baith Bischops, Duiks, and Earlis of renoune,
 And hir convoyit throw the rewis faire,
 2290 With filke and arras that arrayit war.

The bellis range in kirkis up and doune,
 The silver trumpits maid ane mirrie found ;
 Among the pepill haill was this clamoure,
 Welcum our lustie Princefs of honoure !
 Then at the Palice richt as fcho discendit,
 The nobill Lordis fill on hir dependit,
 And hir convoyit up into the hall ;
 Of hir cuming [richt] glaid was ane and all,
 And of the cuming of Clariodus :

2300 Thus was the Court richt blyth and joyous.
 The supper was anone [all] redie dicht,
 And to the tabill with monie Lord and Knight
 Adoume [then] fate this Princes honorabill,
 And servit was with meitis delectabill.

The night before thair cuming to the toune,
 Thre famous Bisbops of full grite renoune,
 And thrie grite Earlis that war full worthie,
 Quhilkis war sex hundereth horse in companie ;
 Ane of them fent was to Clariodus,

2310 The uther to Palexis richt famous,
 The third to Amandour the nobill Knight,
 And broght with them thrie golden crounis bright,
 To croume them Kingis of thrie kynriks cleire,
 As ȝe fall ester in this storie heire.

Into ane lustie Innis ludgit thay,
 Whair they on windowis and on stairis lay
 And faw this Princes and this Courte ryde by,
 And said they faw never sik ane company ;
 And of thair Oist they speirit of the thrie

2320 That fould the Princes of thair realmis be.
 And he them schew unto [the] Knightis thair,
 Vailȝeaud of deidis and of thair bodies faire.

Thir Lordis them commendit grittumlie,
 Saying, That they war nobill and worthie,
 Of thrie realmis to be crounit Kings,
 And happilie providit war thair rings
 To have like thrie Princes for to be,
 That both war cumit of ane linage hie,
 And syne was faire and feimit gratiouis ;
 2330 And most they praisit Sir Clariodus.

This night owerdrame, day cumand was anone,
 And bright Apollo with his beamis schone
 Ower land and sea, and all the land abreid ;
 This gudlie Princes, floure of womanheid,
 Addreslit hir in hir frescheft aray,
 As is the frescheft bloffome into May ;
 And up him dreslit everie Lord and Knight ;
 Thir thrie Ambaffats freschlie hes them dicht
 Unto thair Lordis, presents to attaine,
 2340 Full monie ane gowne of filke and golden chaine
 Was thame among, and gif [I] tell the treuth,
 Unto the Palice bounit they all but fleuth.

Thir tydings harde hes [Sir] Clariodus ;
 Them to convoy he hes sent Knights famous.
 When all hade servit God, and syne difjunit,
 Talbrounis and trumpits syne up tunit ;
 Meliades knights convoyit them the way.
 Alsweith within the Palace enterit they.
 Weill orderit, and on ane gudlie wayis,
 2350 They come before Madame Meliades ;
 They helfit have this Princes of bewtie ;
 Syne everie Lord and Knight in his degrie.

When they hade salust other courteflie,
 Then to Meliades thay said humbillie,

Madame, with leive of *ȝow* we will advyse
 Heir with the Earle of Elfur in sum wayis,
 And we at length fall commoune with *ȝow* syne ;
 With that thay doe full low to hir inclyne.
 Doe as *ȝe* pleife, quoth schoe, I am content.

2360 Thir Lordis and the Earle togidder went
 Into ane chalmer be them felves allone.
 Ane of the bischops speikis thus anone,
 My Lord, *ȝe* know the Lady *ȝour* Countes
 Beine sifter to the Kingis nobilnes
 Of Ireland, quhilke [now] febill is and old,
 And may excerse no justice as he wold,
 And hes no heares abill unto the croune,
 That cuming are of his fuccessioun :
 Whairfor unto *ȝour* Sonne ws sent hes he,
 2370 To gar him cum and ringe in our countrie ;
 And heir we have brought for his [hie] renoune
 The regale wande of justice and the croune,
 To delyver to him, and give possessioun
 Of all his nobill and mightie regioune ;
 And bade, or we returne, to croune him King,
 And in his name the realme to him resinge.
 We understand that this may not be donne
 Into ane tyme that ware mair opportoune
 Nor heir befor this royll companie.

2380 The Earle maid answeir, and said full courtefflie,
 First God I thanke, from quhilke cumis all grace,
 And syne the King, that so weill ordanit hes
 His tender bluide ester himself to ringe.
 Clariodus he gart unto him bring,
 And said, My Sonne is heir, the quhilk I geive
 Unto the King alse long as he may leive.

Of Ireland two Lordis that was of mikill fame,
 Of quhom as now I neid not schaw the name,
 Ane Bischope and ane Earle, them betweine
 2390 Hes led him furth, quhilk gudlie is to feine.
 Full joyfull was the pepell auld and geing,
 Quhen that thay saw him led then as ane King,
 Betweine two Lordis nobill and potent :
 Bot thay sum pairet in heartis war dolent,
 Trowand that into Ireland he fould go,
 Full loath war thay he fould depairte them fro.
 Two famous Bischopis and honorabill Earlis two
 Palexis tuike and Amandour also,
 And to them said on this [famine] maneire.
 2400 Beacaus thir brether two Uncles war but weire
 To thir two Princes that grite war of degrie,
 The King of Garnet and of Castelgie,
 They war lede furth upon the famine wayis.
 Full gudlie was the maner and the gyfe
 Of the triumph was maid at thair crouning.
 All to the kirke are went thir Lordis dinge.
 Thir Kingis thrie was fete full royallie
 In regale feats, coverit mightillie
 With cloathes of gold, befor the hie altere,
 2410 And on thair heidis thrie goldin crounis deire,
 With awfull wand of justice in thair hand,
 Servet with nobill Lordis inclynande.
 And Prelats that war dinge and honorabill,
 Begane the service in wayis conveinabill,
 And thair ane psalme [full] solemelie they fang,
 For noyise of organis all the collage rang.
 When that the royall service all was fynit,
 The Earlis, Lordis and barrounis all inclynit

Befor Clariodus with blyth visage,
 2420 Randering to him of Ireland the homage ;
 Richt so was donne unto the uther two.
 And syne unto the Palice can thay go,
 Whair ane full royll denner ordanit was.
 The Kingis thrie war lede with nobilnes
 Out of the kirke, with septour, sword, and croune,
 With noyse of trumpit and of clarion ;
 They enterit in the Palice joyfullie,
 With mirthfull sound of hevinlie menstrellie.
 Heir to be schorte, and leive all circumfstance,
 2430 Thay go to tabill with joy and all plesance.
 Betwix two Kingis fate Meliades,
 Ane King sat hir before on gudlie wayis ;
 Thrie Bischopis, and of Eftur the Countes,
 Sate at the tabill thair with all glaidnes ;
 Two maisters of houhhold to King Philippon
 War merchald at the tabill end anone,
 With them Earle Eftur of nobilnes and fame,
 And the richt honorabill Bischope of Durhame.
 I may not tary on thair marchelling,
 2440 To tell gow all the royll triumphing,
 Thair excellent and thair [maist] plesant cheire,
 Nor of their gudlie service the maneire,
 Nor of thair grite disport and minstrellie,
 Nor of the coursis that did multiplie,
 Nor among coursis the interneilis glaid,
 Nor the delectabill comoning thay hade,
 Nor of the pretious meitis delicate,
 Nor of thair syndrie storis prorogate ;
 I let owergo all sik prolixitie.
 2450 Foure syndrie liquoris ran with royltie,

From foure beiftis in foure nuiks of the hall,
 Whilke was ane fight richt fair and triumphall :
 Ane was ane lyoun, right awfull and terribill,
 At quhois gaiping mouth, full horibill,
 Rane myghtie wyne, right plefant, cleir, and cauld ;
 It was ane gude fight him for to behald :
 The uther was ane lustie unicorne,
 Fyne Ipocras did ryn out at his horne :
 The thridre ane tyger was, felloun and stout,
 2460 Rose water fearecelie at his nose ran out :
 The fourte ane marmade was, with traces bright,
 At both her papis mylke ran out on height.
 And at the letter course, in come ane gyse
 Of finall chyldreine, [full] gudlie to devyse,
 To the number of fortie, all transfigurat
 As wolfes full wyld, and [strangelie] deformate,
 Quhilk scatterit flouris faire throw the hall,
 With favoure sweit as ony balme royll ;
 And ever ilk ane on ane instrument,
 2470 On courious wayis, with fyngeris diligent,
 Diverlie glaidand, all in ane accorde
 Raising on loft, with joy and grite conforde,
 The hearts of all the nobill audience.
 Of eardlie joy thair was no indigence.
 What sould I longer tell of thair feafting ?
 Thair cumis ane end of everie worldlie thing.
 When thay hade feaftit long upon this wayis,
 Both Kingis, Lordis, and Ladies, up thay raife,
 And went to chalmeris fair at all pleafouris,
 2480 Thair to delyver the ambaffadouris.
 The Ireland Bilchope, and the Earle also,
 [Hes] thair delyverance akit hame to go.

The King Clariodus on faire maneire,
 Thus faide, My Lordis and [my] friendis deire,
 I thanke the King my Eame of his [gude] grace,
 That hes his croune, his septore, and his mace,
 Donne of his nobilnes to me relinge,
 Albeit thairto I am no thing condinge ;
 And quhair he wold I to his ringe repairit,

2490 It may be with expedience declairit
 Before gow all now at this [fame] instante,
 My companie this Princes may not wante,
 Whilk to hir Father rydis furth anone,
 Go I hir fro, scho then is left allone ;
 Bot of this voyage quhen [that] I have donne,
 And quhen I fe the tyme is oportune,
 Sall none ambaffage neide me for to bring
 Unto my Eame and honorabill King :
 Ge counfall me thairfor in this mater,
 2500 And to gour myndis I fall assent right heir.
 Then said the Bishope with all reverence,
 Gour wordis beine, Sir, fructuous of sentence ;
 Nothing we can gour speache [as now] impunge,
 So scharpe with reasounis cyllit beine our tonge,
 Gow in this present voyage we excuse ;
 Sen on no wayis fro hir [gow go] behuile,
 Ge may not leave the realme defolate,
 Thairfor ane louetenant to us create,
 Our realme to governe in [richt] regiment,
 2510 Whill ge gif us your prefence excellent.
 The King consentit to this petitionoun,
 And gave right thair his [hie] commissioune
 Unto the Earle of Durhame right famous ;
 And soune anone they war delyverit thus.

And finallie thir other Kingis two
 Thair ambaffatis hes delyverit also.
 Full grite giftis thir Kingis gave all thrie
 Unto thir Lordis mikill of dignitie,
 Commending them with hearts unto their Kings,
 2520 Them thanking oft [syls] into mikill things.

They tuike thair leave full fairlie on this wayis,
 Both at the Kings and at Meliades.

Earle Eftur them convoyit biffilie,
 Unto the close quhair they fand all redie
 Ane Knight ordanit be King Clariodus,
 With monie aye goldin jewell pretious,
 Both goldin coupis, changeis and rings,
 Rich cloathes of gold, and monie coastlie things,
 For to present to the ambaffadouris;

2530 And syne they did with [verie] grite honouris,
 Convoy them [all] weill far out of the toune.
 The Bifchope and the Earle of great renoune
 Of Durhame hes thair leavis taine anone,
 With the ambaffate grathing them to gone ;
 With that their gaitis they did depart, and than
 Thair leave at uther hes taine everie man.
 Earle Efture tuike his leave and hamewart raid.
 And the Ambaffadours, withoutin more abaid,
 In thair voyage usit sik diligence,

2540 Whill thay all come soune into the prefence
 Of thair thrie Kings, and than thay all declairit
 How thay had donne, and hade [in] nothing spairit.
 Full glaid they war quhen they hard this tyding
 Of thair Uncles and of thair honoring.
 All thrie they feastit the Ambaffadouris,
 That had so plesantlie donne thair pleasouris.

To chalmer King Clariodus is gone,
 And his rob royall hes laid af anone,
 And eik his crown of gold i-forgit new,
 2550 And pute on him ane goune of velvote blew ;
 Syne went unto the chalmer of Meliades,
 To quhome schoe courteflie did [thair] up ryfe,
 And unto him maid kinglie reverence,
 Saying to him, with fnylling countinance,
 Is this the fassion of ane King, said sche,
 So quyetlie to cum in this degrie
 Into ane chalmer quhair ladies dois abyde ?
 Scho set him on ane euscheine hir befyde.
 He said to hir thir wordis secreitlie,
 2560 Nather King, Earle, nor [ȝit ane] Duike am I,
 Nor uther Lord, Madame, in ȝour presence,
 Bot ȝour awin Knight to doe ȝow reverence
 To ȝow abone all uther warldis wight,
 Alfe long as I have ather wite or might.
 Long spake they thus of materis to and fro.
 The Earle Estur towardis them can go,
 And faid, that speidfull [now it] war that we
 Schoupe ws this night in Belvilladoune to be,
 Whilk is from ws bot awcht mylis of way.
 2570 All to this thing anone consentit thay,
 Thair horse thay gart be grathed suddenly.
 When everie thing was at poynt and readie,
 The quhilke pertteinit unto thair estaitie,
 At schorte thay maid them readie for the gaite,
 Kingis, Knightis, and Ladies of renowne,
 Ascendit on thair horse with trumpit foun.
 The Lordis of the toun did them convoy,
 Rycht honorabillie with plefance and with joy,

Whill thay war riddine ane great pearte of the way ;
 2580 Syne to the tounne againe returnit thay.

The luftrie Courte them sped on fike maneire,
 So at Belvell they come to the suppeire.

When the King wifl his Dochter was fo neire,
 He hes delyverit on ame fair maneire
 The thrie Ambaffats, fo thay war content ;
 Syne them rewaiderit with giftis richt potent,
 Quhilk leave hes taine and hame raid fuddanlie
 To their Princes, commanding grittumlie
 The Kings honoure and [eik] his gentilnes.

2590 Meliades this luftrie gounyng Princes,
 With [all] hir Courte [full] greatlie to advance,
 Aproached quhair the King maid residence,
 Whair monie Lords maid full grite reverence,
 Prefentlie com before hir excellencie,
 Fairlie hir met weiping with joy and blis,
 That schoe againe in hir cuntrie cumin is.
 Scho enterit in the toun right royallie,
 Quhilke flentit was with royall tapestrie,
 Into the honour of hir hame cuming ;
 2600 Minstrellis did play, and bellis long did ring.

Full faft the pepill prafit hir bewtie.
 And fo, with all hir Court of royaltie,
 On gudlie wayis scho rydis throw the toun,
 And at the Kingis Palice lichtit doune.

And when the gudlie fresche Meliades
 Was from hir horfe discendit on this wayis,
 And enterit in the clofe of the Palice,
 The King hir Father, with [ane] mirrie face,
 Upon his heid put on his nobill croune,
 2610 Incontinent undid from him his gounyng

And doublet, all alleane he hes discendit
 To hir quhom to he had so far offendit.
 Then all the Courte hade ferlie him to lie
 Go meit his Doghter in fik [ane] degrie.
 Rycht thair to hir he fate on kneis adoune,
 All bair heided, faffand he hade on his croune,
 As not the father to the chyld fould do :
 Bot he fo gritlie failȝeit hir unto ;
 Whairfor he thought he wald to hir amende.

2620 This Princes saw her Father and did attende,
 And saw him on his knie, and thocht ferlie ;
 For feho was then abaisit grittumlie,
 And him before feho fell on kneis eike.
 The King wirdis lamentabill and meike
 First spake upon this wayis, I aske God mercie
 Of my delyverance cursit and haſtie,
 And of my wit that beiftlie was and wyld
 For to believe like treafoun of my chyld :
 Syne I aske mercie at ȝow, Dochter deir,
 2630 In this eftait as I am fitting heir,
 Befeikand ȝow that ge wald me forgive ;
 For I repent, and fall do quhill I leive,
 The grite trespase that I have to ȝow wroght.
 With that from weiping he [refrain] might noght.
 His beard begane with teares to weit for sorrow
 As dasie buske bedewit in the morrow.
 Then all the pepill that this thing could fie,
 Full fast they weipit for rewth and for pitie,
 To fie the King regrate on like ane wayes.

2640 This bening Ladie, fair Meliades,
 Heiring hir Father to hir compleaning fo,
 Hir tender heart almaist it fell in two ;

For sorrow and pitie neir out of wit feho braid.
 I cry gow mercie, myne Father, feho faid,
 Ryse up, my Lord, quhy fit ge fo, alleace ;
 For it no thing perteinis to geour Grace,
 To me, geour Chyld, to fit upon geour knie :
 Bot suithlie it pertenis unto me
 To fit on kneis to gow, my Father deir,
 2650 My soverane Lord and Prince most intair ;
 For weill ge knew that I full humbillie
 At geour command will do aluterlie ;
 And, Father, I forgive gow hertfullie.
 And both with [that] they weipit pitiouslie.
 Than raise the King but ony wordis mo,
 And tuik his Doghter in his armis two,
 Whom that he lovit attoure all eardlie thing,
 And kislit hir with tender imbracing.
 Syne he refavit King Clariodus
 2660 Into his armis, with countinancie joyous ;
 And on the famyne wayis his Cousings two
 With kinglie honour refavit he also ;
 [Then the] Earle Eftur and his Countes eike
 He hes refavit with ane visage meike ;
 Syne all the Lordis and Ladies on be on
 He helfit hes. And quhen the Queine anone
 Hir Doghter faw, uneis feho might conetine,
 Or in hir heart fo grit ane joy fustaine,
 To sie hir in fo gude prosperitie,
 2670 That ordanit was fo crewellie to die.
 Hir bairne schoe tuike in armis tenderlie,
 Ane weill long space imbracing heartillie ;
 Schoe kislit hir [full] oft, with spreite joyous.
 Syne feho refavit King Clariodus,

And syne [the] uther Kingis both in feire,
 Kissing them [all] with mirth and glaidfume cheir ;
 The Earle of Eftur eik, and his Countes,
 Relavit schoe with joy and mirrines ;
 Than everie Lord and Ladie that was thair,
 2650 Scho weleumit. Syne to the hall they faire,
 Whair feiges royll was gudlie to behold
 For foure Kingis coverit with cloath of gold,
 Above thair heidis fiklyke thair was stent,
 Whilke to behold was pretious and potent.
 The hall was all arayit with the famyne,
 Thair was grit joy of menstrallie and gaming.

So quhen thay war all enterit in the hall,
 King Philipon said this befor them all,
 Lordingis, it is not unkend perdie,
 2690 How the knightheid and magnanimitie
 Of King Clariodus, [the] most famous,
 And alse his Father, worthy and gratiouſ,
 This kingrik now exaltit hes fo hé,
 So that it standis imperiall of degrie,
 Nixt under France, of lawde, honour and fame,
 Whome fra nane mortall tribute may recleame,
 Out of [all] thraldome and subiectioun ;
 And eik hes put our foes to affliction,
 Onlie be thame active and chevelrus,
 2700 And speciallie be King Clariodus,
 That hes beine haill protectour and defence
 Into this regne, quhilk haid [grite] indigence
 Of help and comfort while he came in refuge,
 And uther regnes he maid unto us fuge.
 Now with rewarde I wald faine him requite,
 That might doe him baith [honour] and delyte ;

And gif that heir for to resave him list,
 I fall him geive the thing that I love best,
 That is my Doghter, heare of this regioun,
 2730 Thairto I gif my kingdom and my croun
 Heir unto him with hir in marriage,
 All unconstrainit, of my awin curage.
 For joy at onis the pepill all could cry,
 Thanking the King that faid so worthily.
 Syne he faid to Clariodus the King,
 Sir, if sa be that \ge no promiseng
 Hes maid unto no uther Ladie cleire,
 I gif to \gown my onlie Doghter deire.
 Meiklie him thankit King Clariodus
 2740 Of his grite gift that was so gratioues,
 [Thus] faying, Sir, I dar \gown weill affure,
 I \gat promittit to na creatoure,
 Nor covenant maid, nor conditioun,
 To earthlie wight into na regioun.
 And Sir, if that \gown pleise into this wayis,
 To gif \gown our Doghter, fair Meliades,
 In mariage to me, believe \ge fall
 Glaidin me more, and better pleafe at all,
 Nor me to gif ane hundreth realmis faire,
 2750 And all the riches eike under the aire.
 King Philipone on this most gudlie wayis,
 Delyverit thair this faire Meliades
 To King Clariodus; and he anone
 This fair Princes into his armes hes tone,
 Imbracing hir, and lowlie did inclyne
 Unto the King: but quho could all defyne
 The joy that did enter into his heart!
 With that the King alfwyth did him revert

Of Ingland to the Cardinall famous,
 2760 And gart him handfaſt thame, and be joyous
 To go togidir in Godis holy band.

When this wes done with feiftis triumphand,
 Quhilk wer ane proces owir lang on to dwell,
 King Philoppon convoyit them him fell,
 And maid hir Queine of all his regiouн ;
 Syne in his handis two he tuik the croun,
 And on the heid of King Clariodus
 He hes it set with countenance joyous,
 And maid him King of all his regiouн faire,
 2770 Before the people all wer stading thaire.

Than did they to Clariodus of knightheid well,
 ȝeild thankis more nor I can think or tell,
 Reverencing him with all diligence.
 Bot he, before that gudlie audience,
 Said he wold not as ȝit the honour have
 Of his kingrik, nor ȝit the croun reſlave
 So long as he on lyf wes it to bruike.
 ȝit nevirtheles, thought he it oft forſhike,
 King Philippon fik instance maid him till,
 2780 That he behuifit to obey his will.

Thus he of Ingland and Ireland both was King,
 To the [quhilk] ȝit fucceidis his offspring.

This beine donne, the dance anone begane,
 Grit joy and pleafoure was them amonge than.
 In chalmer they disport ane weill longe space,
 Whill that the fupper almost redie was.
 The foure Kingis to fupper all they went.
 King Philippon nobill and reverent,
 And King Clariodus sat at [the] tabill ;
 2790 Before themſate thir Kingis honorabill :

King Amandur and King Palexis syne
 Sate before uther thair as ony lyne.
 The Cardinall of [richt] grite nobilnes
 Was set of Eftur before the Countes,
 Next [to] the Counte at the tabillis ende ;
 The discreit Marchell thair eslaitis kende.
 And at the uther end, I gow affure,
 Sat the Duke of Gloster, and the Earle Efture :
 And syne ever ilk Lord fate in his degrie.

2800 They sowppit with triumph and mynstrallie.
 And after supper quhen ischit was the hall,
 The Maisteris of Hounhald them commandit all
 To go into thair Innis for that night
 Bot secreit Lordis. And than everie wight
 Devoydit beine that was not of Counfell.
 Than King, Queine, Lord, Knight and Damosell,
 To chalmeris went with mirrines and plesance.
 The Kingis foure with fade remembrance,
 Devyfit togidder be themselves allone

2810 Anents the wadding how [that] all sould gone ;
 And certainlie within ane moneth day
 For to compleit the mariage ordanit thay ;
 And devyfit what Princes of honoure,
 What Duikis, and what Lordis of valoure,
 Thay wald have at the forsaid mariage.
 And quhen the King with uther Lordis sage
 Had long devyfit upon this mateire,
 Then went to beddis Knights and Ladies cleire.
 King Clariodus and his cousingis two

2820 Tuke leave alsweith, and could to chalmer go.
 This nobill Prince, full fresh and [full] lustie,
 Put on ane goun of velvete cramosie,

And to his Ladie Meliades is gone ;
 The quhilke up raife and kneillit hes anone.
 Then tuike he hir in armis tenderlie,
 And said into hir eare full quyetlie,
 This is ane ftrange wrold that dois indure,
 When Ladies kneillis to thair serviture.

Meliades than changit hew alyte,

2830 Of like language that had no use perfyte.
 And syne he schew to hir the namis haill,
 That he wald have to be at the brydell ;
 And firſt the King he namit of Spainȝe,
 And syne the King of Galice namit he,
 And his ſifter Madonat, of Spainȝe Queine,
 And eik the King of Spainȝes ſifter ſcheine,
 And Ladie Cadder that ſould mariet be
 With King Palexis, as ellis hard have ȝe.
 He ſpake of this and diverſe thingis mo,
 2840 Syne tuike his leave ; bot ȝit or he wald [go,]
 To hir ane gudlie diamond he gave,
 And of the Ladies rewardit he the leave.
 When this was donne, he to his chalmer went,
 Syne for the Count his Father hes he fent,
 And with his counfall delyverit he hes anone
 In foure realmis foure heralds for to gone,
 And everie ane direȝit ane fyndrie way,
 Thir ſaid Princes and Ladies for to pray ;
 And gart expenſis delyver them anone ;
 2850 And thay belyve hes taine thair leave to gone.
 King Philipone gart make ane royll crowne
 Of gold and ſtainis, richt pretious of faſſioun,
 To this ȝoung Prince, with uther riche aray,
 Of quhilk the maner war lang for to fay.

The King Clariodus gart grath alfo
For himself richlie ; so did his Coufings two ;
And ever ilk Lord, Ladie, and Damosell,
Hes for them ordanit royall apparrell.
Thus them I leive in mirth, joy, and bliffe ;
2860 So of this Taill the Fourt Buik endit is.

THE FYFT BUIK
OF
C L A R I O D U S.

THE PROLOGUE OF THE FYFT BUIK.

In Mayis seafoune [that is] soft and fweit,
When balmie liquore dois on leavis gleit,
And bewis brekes and blomis upon breid,
And pleasantlie inamillit beine the meid
All ower depaintit with collouris new,

• • • • •

HAVING passit the sea and cum to land,
I meane the foure heralds out of Ingland ;
First two of them arryvit into France,
And to the King with humbill reverence
Thay schew thair credence and commissioun.
He them delyverit with bening fermoune ;
And fyne anone fent for the Constabill,
Saying to him thir wordis honorabill,

We have gude tydings of Sir Clariodus,
 10 Of two realmes now is he King famous ;
 And heir anone he hes ane mesage fend,
 Befeikand me to gif gow leave to wende
 In Ingland cuntrie agains his wadding day,
 The quhilke I grant gow, schortlie for to say.
 Hade he my selfe defyrit for to be,
 I wald not have denyit it perdie.
 ȝe fall take threttie knightis of renoune,
 Whilke nobilleſt beine of all my regioune,
 To go with gow to doe to him honoure,
 20 Quhilk is of knighthed verie well and floure.
 The Conſtabill thankit him humbillie,
 And to the heralds did promit trewly
 Againe the day unto the tryſt to wend.
 The nobill King bade oft him recommend
 To him, and to his Queine Meliades.
 And quhen thay war delyverit on this wayfe,
 He gart gif them ane thowſand pound of gold,
 And two riche garmonds gudlie to behold.
 Thay thankit have this Princee of [hie] renoune,
 30 Inclyning low upon thair kneis doune ;
 Syne tuike thair leave, and tuike them to the way.
 Into few dayis in Ingland landit thay ;
 Whair thay aryvit, and ſchew unto the King
 As ȝe have harde me fay in everie thing,
 And how thay ware rewairdit of this wayes ;
 The fame they ſchew to Queine Meliades,
 And how the King and the Lord Conſtabill,
 Did them commend in wayis honorabill
 Unto the King and unto hir bewtie.
 40 And ſcho was glaide of thair prosperitie.

Within awcht dayis after thair cuming,
 The uther heraldis both come to the King,
 Whilk war delyverit on the fame maneire.
 Then was the King richt glaidfume of his cheire.

King Philipone aucht barrouns hade ordande,
 The most active that was into Ingland,

To helpe the maisters of houfhald to devyse
 And rewle his Palice on most gudlie wayis,
 And to refave with gudlie countinance,

50 All Lordis, Knights and Ladies of pleasance,
 And eik all strangeris [baith] most and least,
 That with thair presence honour wald the feast.

The Lordis awcht with all [thair] diligence,
 With grite triumph, laude and magnificence,
 Apperrellit hes the Palice royallie,
 And all the wallis coverit lufillie,
 With cloathes of gold, and stainis pretious,
 And riche arras with workis curious,
 With auld storis depaint and figurate ;

60 How Troy be slaughter was depopulate,
 And how the toune was taine be falfe ingyne,
 And how the wallis ware broght unto ruine :
 Thair was the feige of Thebis toun also,

How oder flew the Trojan brether two,
 King Polinices, and King Ethiocles :
 Thair was the deidis of strong Hercules,
 And all his strength and courage leonyne :
 And thair was Jafon with his cheire vulpeine :
 Thair was the Conqueife of nobill Alexander :
 70 Thair was of Crefleid the faikles flander :
 The schort perfewing of Diomedes :
 The fervent love of forrowful Achilles :

The craftie winning of the Goldin fleice :
 The revifching of Heline out of Greice :
 The dreame of Paris of the Goddis superne,
 The bewtie of thame how he did decerne,
 And how he gave the apill to Venus :
 Thair was the weiping of Sir Troylus,
 When Creffeid did depaert frome Troy toun :

80 Thair wes the forcie Trojane campioun,
 Moft worthie Hector in armes invincibill,
 Chaiceing the Greikis with feir right teribill,
 With naikit fword in hand of bluid all reid :
 Thair was of Sampson the murthere, and the feid
 Betwix him and the falfe Philiftiane :
 And thair wes Lucreis of hir awin hand flaine :
 And diverfe Knights full trew and nothing faint,
 Bot monie ane fals woman thair wes paint :
 Thair wes the plaint full pitious and mone

90 Of Arfyte and his brother Palamon :
 The treuth of Dido and Penelope :
 Of Clytemnestra the great erweltie,
 Wha flew hir hufband with ane knyfe in bed :
 Thair wes Piramus and Thisbe both forbled,
 For forow of other lay flaine be the well :
 Thair wes King Orphius, that out of hell
 His wife did bring with harping [wondrous] fweit :
 Thair wes Saturnus baneift out of Creit,
 In fik defert by Jupiter his fone,

100 For he him drink gave of the bittir cone :
 Thair wes the ftores of all the Nobillis nyne :
 The half I can not wryte, nor git defyne,
 Of Campiounis the craftie depicturis,
 Seiming full quick, and livelie of figouris.

All paithit wes the hall of marbill whyte.
 And cloth of gold furmonting of delyte
 Above the deice wes royllie upstent
 Of curious champis of rosis redolent ;
 The buird cloth of the famin was but dreid,
 110 The silver seimit birning as ane gleid,
 Of stiff depurit gold [all] birning bright,
 Of stome and perle the bordour caift ane light.
 For the four Kings thair of eftait withall
 In four places wer ordanit feidgis royll,
 With stome and perle [all] richelie resplendent,
 Lyk to the radious starie firmament.
 The cusingis of deaureat splendure schone,
 Ane fairer sight into the world wes none ;
 And all the wallis wer full royllie
 120 Veflit with clothis of gold full richelie ;
 And all the chalmeris on the famine wayes
 Arrayit wer full gudlie to devyse.
 The galleireis about the fresch gardingis
 Wer stentit all with rich apperrellingis.
 The Palice close wes fairlie paythit new
 With marbill stonis reid, [and] whyte and blew.
 It wer prolikis, and long of circumfancis
 To tell all haill the royll ordinancis,
 The fair apperrell and luftie fresch array
 130 That thair wes maid for the triumphand day.
 The gret Constabill of France full mightie
 Ordanit his Knights all, and maid readie
 To paffe in Ingland to the mariage.
 And quhen the tyme was cumit of his paillage,
 He tuike his leave full lowlie at the King,
 Whilk to him said, Sir Constabill, fair Coufing,

Commend us to the King Clariodus,
 And bid him keipe the height he maid to us ;
 Quhilk was to be [richt] glaid and have curage

140 On the day of Meliades mariage,
 And we fall keipe all the avowis perdie
 Maid at the supper as weill knowis he ;
 And bid him spair ws not, bot charge us ay,
 For we ar his in all that we do may.
 The Constabill faid all fould be donne anone ;
 He tuik his leave, and to the Queine is gone,
 Quhilk bad hir recommend in humbill wayis
 Both to the King and to Meliades.

He tuike his leave, and to his horſe ascendit,
 150 With all his Knightis that on him dependit ;
 Lordis in France ane grite pairt of the way
 Convoyit him, and fyne thair leave tuike thay.
 The Lord Constabill, and all his lustie forte,
 Ar cumit to Calice and lichtit at the porte.
 And thair thay went to schippis all belyve,
 And into Dovar sounē thay did aryve ;
 And thair on horſe thay mountit but abaid,
 And to the toune of Londoune furth thay raid,
 Whaire diverse Lords and marchands of renoune

160 With grite triumph him met without the toune.
 And thair thay feasfit him full royallie,
 And him convoyit fyne full honorabillie
 Two myllis on gaitward, fyne thair leave hes tone.
 To Bellvilladoun come this Lord anone.
 When King Clariodus hard of his cuming,
 He lape on horſe but ony taryng
 Him for to meit, and bad his two Couſings,
 Of Garnat and of Caſtalȝe the Kings,

Remaine in Palice with King Philippon ;
 170 And he to meit the Constabill anone
 Furth passit with ane nobill companie ;
 And swa without the portis royallie
 This Lord he met, and syne did him imbrace,
 And him refavit with richt merie face ;
 He helfit all his companie also ;
 And syne blythlie unto the toun they go.
 He bad the Constabill ryd richt by his syd,
 Bot he refuisit equall with him to ryde ;
 Ȝit nevertheles he streingit him thairto,
 180 And his command behuifit him to doe.
 Syne speirit he richt heartillie of the King,
 And of his Princes lustie and beninge.
 He said, they heartilie greeting to him send,
 And bad that he sould oft them recommend
 To him and to the Queen Meliades ;
 And eik he said to him upon this wayis,
 The King prayit to keip weill ȝour promit,
 And on no ways ȝe to forȝettine it.
 And what he meint weill understude the King,
 190 And said he sould fulfill it in all thing ;
 Thairwith he lewch, so did [the] Lord Constabill.
 And so thay raid with heartis amiabill,
 Whill thay to Palice come, and thair they licht,
 And up the gries passit they on height ;
 Syne enterit in the hall, and that anone,
 Whair that the wallis [all] full brightlie schone ;
 Whilk the Lord Constabill commendit grittumlie,
 And so did all the nobill companie.
 Syne thay have past to Philippon the King,
 200 To quhome the Constabill maid fair halſing ;

Then he him thair in armis did refave,
 And fairlie fyne did welcum all the leave.
 Syne this Lord helsit hes the Kingis two,
 Palexis and King Amandour also ;
 And thay refavit him on faire maneir,
 And all his folkis, both knight and bachileir ;
 And then they spake of thingis to and fro.
 And to the Queinis chalmer fyne they go,
 And thair thay halfit both the Queinis fair ;

210 And thay him quyte with wordis debonare,
 And kiflit him with countinance demure,
 Syne speirit for the King, and how he fure ;
 And also of his lustlie Princes eike,
 And how s Echo fure, and all hir Ladies meike.
 He said thay both war in prosperitie,
 And did commend him unto thair bewtie.

Meliades then faid unto the Queine,
 Madam, if \ge of rememberance beine,
 Full oft or now I have [unto] gow told

220 Both unto King and Queine how I was hold,
 And to the Constabill heire, my faire Couising,
 To quhom I am addettit in grite thing.
 The Lord Constabill then faid in this wayis,
 Madame, \ge say that bot of \ge our gentrice,
 And of \ge our sweit affurit womanheid,
 And nether for my service nor gude deid ;
 Bot trait, Madame, after my pure power,
 I fall be to \ge ow ane servant singuler.
 When this faid was, the Lord [then] went anone,

230 And kiflit all the Ladies on be one.
 As they abaid amongs the Ladies bright,
 Out of the hall alsweith thair come ane knight,

And to the King Clariodus he said,
 The nobill King from tabill him abaid ;
 Thair Kingis, Queinis, Lordis, fair Ladies,
 Com to the hall, all went on lustie wayis.
 Full reverentlie the King Clariodus
 Unto King Philipon [then] speikis thus,
 Sir, gif it pleasis god, my Brother heire,
 240 The Lord Constabill and I will go in feire,
 And dyne into my chalmer quyetlie.
 Thairof, said he, full weill content am I.
 And then anone the King Clariodus
 The Constabill hes led furth joyous,
 With diverse Knightis of his companie.
 King Philipon to tabill royallie
 Was set betwix the [gude] King Palexis
 And King Amandur that [richt] worthie was ;
 And at the end eike of this royall tabill
 250 Was set the Earle Ester honorabill
 Before ane famous Duike of that cuntrie ;
 Syne everilk Lord and Duike in their degrie
 Was set, and servit wonder nobillie
 With pleasand meits and wyne abundantlie.
 The King Clariodus greate feistng maid
 To the French Lord that he in chalmer hade,
 And to his Knightis fresche and weil beseine.
 Great mirth and feistng maid baith King and Queine.
 The menfrells plays with ane melodious soune
 260 Before thir Princes of so great renowne.
 When thay had fittine long on this maneire,
 Kingis, Princis, Lordis, and Ladies cleire,
 From burdes thay did up ryfe, and said the grace.
 Clariodus the King, with great folace,

And the Lord Conitabill ar cumit to hall
With ane cumpanie of Knights full royll.
King Amandur and King Palexis
Unto the Queinis chalmer can them dreffe,
Thir [faid] Princes to bring unto the hall,
270 Quhair thay in chalmer, and thair Ladies all,
Dynis, as then of Ingland was the gyse.
Thay war arayit on ane gudlie wayis.
Meliades, this lustie [fair] young Queine,
As ony Goddes fresch was for to feine,
Into ane corfit of claih of gold all quhyte,
Whilk was of faffoun wonderlie perfyte ;
Rich talbart fleves, [that war] long, large and wyde,
Upon the eard behind hir trailling fyde,
As it was the gyse of Ingland tho ;
280 For in thaife tymis ladyis cled war fo.
Upon hir heade ane rofie chapilet
Within ane roseire all in bright gold fet,
The roseis reid war all of culour bricht,
And carbunkle stonis casting plesant licht.
Upon the rofeire lustie to be feine,
Insteid of leives hang emeroldis greine,
Full freschlie pouderit all with leavis quhyt,
Whilk to behald ane hevin was of delyte.
About hir snew quhyte throte, as blosflome cleire,
290 Of curious warkis hang ane fair colleire.
King Amandur to hall did hir convoy,
As scho hade beine this worldis gem and joy ;
And King Palexis led hir mother the Queine ;
Thair followed hir monie Ladie scheinie.
And at the entrie of Queine Meliades,
They hir beheld upon ane gudlie wayes ;

For certainlie it feamit to thair eye,
 That day by day increfflit hir bewtie.
 The King faid to the Conftabill of France,
 300 Go ȝe, fair Coufing, and beginne the dance,
 And take into ȝour hand Meliades.
 And his command he did on humbill wayis.
 ȝ. He gart the King Clariodus alfo
 With the fair Duches of Yorke in danfe to go.
 Full lustie Knights of Ingland and of France
 Anone enterit freschlie in the danfe.
 Both King and Queine are in thair feiges fet,
 With ftone and pearle mightilie owerfret.
 Of instruments up rafe the mightie foune.
 310 Thair danfit monie Ladie of renoune ;
 And uther Ladies, that lift not for to danfe,
 Sate with bening and gudlie countinance
 About the Queine, beholding on the feift.
 Thus war thay all in joy, both moft and leift.
 In midis of thair mirthful melodie,
 Doune at the Palice ȝet all royallie,
 Thair lichtit Kings and Lordis of honour,
 And lustie Ladies alfe fresche as Mayis floure ;
 With plefant Court [all] fresche and weill beſeine,
 320 The mightie King of Spainȝe and the Queine :
 And alſe thair enterit in the Palice tho,
 The King of Galice and his Queine alſo,
 With fair Cadar, that lustie Ladie geing,
 With Donas fifter to the Spaniſch King,
 With Duikis, Earlis, Lordis and [eik] Knights,
 And monie uther fresch and lustie wights :
 And fuddanlie thay ar all cumin thus,
 In witting of the King Clariodus.

And when he wist, he [did] descend anone
 330 Unto the close with Lordis monie one,
 And them refavit [thair] full reverentlie ;
 Syne led them to the hall honorablie.
 King Philipon, and eike the nobill Queine,
 And fair Meliades of bewtie scheine,
 Thir Princes met in middis of the hall,
 And them refavit with triumph royall.
 Bot thair men nicht [have] learnit courtifie,
 To sie thir mightie Princes nobillie
 Reflect to uther, and reverentlie inclyne ;
 340 And eike Ladies with havings femenine
 To utheris kneillit with fweit debonar cheir,
 With leuke bening and womanlie effeire.
 Fresch Mandonat, [that was] of Spaignie Queine,
 Hir Father of Estur had grite pleasoure to seine ;
 Eik of hir Mother schoe was thair joyous,
 And of hir Brother King Clariodus ;
 Thay war fo glaid of uther everie one,
 That long thay could not out of armis gone.
 The Princes all war led to hall and set on deice,
 350 And Lordis to the dance newlie did preife,
 And minstrellis to play againe begane ;
 Amongis them was joy and mirthis thane.
 And quhen thus perlavit hes Clariodus
 Sik number of folkis worthie and famous,
 The wyse Lord Comftabill prayit he to take
 On him luke office for his Ladies faike,
 To have the rewle as [the] most principall,
 Abone the Lordis awcht in speciall
 The maifters of houhhold, to command and correct
 360 [That thay provision make with due respect]

Belonging to the feift in everie thing.
 And glaidlie he hes grantit to the King,
 As he that was of fik doings expert,
 For him suirlie thay nicht no tyme eftart,
 Bot he [ay] redie was in all maneir
 To make the companie merrie feift and cheire,
 Of Garnat, Galice, France and Spainȝie,
 Ingland, Irland, Efture and Caſtelȝie ;
 For he thir Lordis hade all on his toung,

370 All knowis he quhatever be faid or founȝ
 Amongs them all ; and eike he knowis perfyte,
 What may them greive, or quhat may them delyte :
 The Conſtabill of France all this he can,
 At fike ane tyme he was ane neidfull man.

When thay had long diſportit on this wayis,
 Whilk for to feine it was ane parradice,
 Then Kingis, Queinis, Princis and monie Lordis,
 Earlis, Knightis, Ladies and all accordis,
 To chalmeris went, at eaſe them to atray,
 380 And put on them ane luftie new aray ;
 And thay at leafour changit thair cleathing,
 The quhyte lillie and tender flouris greine. . .

Meliades the ding and luftie Queine,
 The freſch and new ſpred roſe of bewtie ſcheine,
 Abuilȝeit hir full fair and lufſillie

Into ane goune of fatine cramofie,
 With orient pearlſ pouderat and owerfret,
 Whilk war full thike and grit thairupon fet,
 Schyning upon the cramofie ſo bright,
 390 Of quhyte and reid full luftie was the fight,
 Whairof full weill might likinit beine the hew
 Unto the hevinlie roſe with liquor new,

Pouderit in morrow with cristall dropis lyke,
 The reid in equal junxit with the quhyte ;
 And as the bloffum honours the bloffum in May,
 So did hir bewtie in hir [fresch] aray.

Hir cleire culour of angel lyke clemence
 Full far surmuntit into excellence
 All hir attyre and riche abuilgement :

400 And most of all hir vertew redolent
 Full cleire I wis abone hir bewtie schone ;
 For in this warld \exists it creatoure was none
 That ever persavit in hir crueltie,
 For scho fulfillit was of womanlie pitie,
 Whilk full was of assurit patience,
 Approvit be right grit experience ;
 Ay humbill, fymples, and schamfull under dreid
 Was this illuſtar floure of womanheid.

Be this the maisteris of houſhold in cum wer,
 410 And wairnit them to cum to the ſupper.
 Kingis and Princes then went to the hall,
 Queinis and Ladies [fair] went with them all.
 Betwix twa Duikis, fresch at all devyfe,
 Unto the hall led was Meliades ;
 God wit if scho was luftie for to fie,
 So entering them among in that degrie,
 Hir following in weidis freschlie dicht,
 Ducheffes, Counteffes, and plesant Ladies bright.
 Fyve mightie Kingis was ſet at the tabill,
 420 With them thair Queinis fresch and honorabill ;
 Bot King Clariodus wald fit no way
 From the Lord Conſtabill, for togidder thay
 Held compagnie without diſſaverance.
 This Conſtabill, full wyfe of governance,

Ordanit the hall fo weill in everie thing,
 Alse weill in cheire as in thair marchelling,
 That he commendit was of everie wight.
 Fair was the hall and the supper that nicht.
 The King Palexis, and King Amandur,
 430 Oft sent to Donas and to faire Cedar
 Them praying to be glaid and make gude cheire.
 When they hade feifit long on this maneire,
 Foure maifters of houfhald, that war honorabill,
 At the command of the Lord Conftabill
 Servit them with the latter courfes thair,
 With towell and water that was cleir and faire.
 When thay had waschin and [the] grace all faid,
 From tabill then thay raife but more abaid.

This being donne, the minftrells playit on height ;

440 Syne to the hall come monie ane Ladie bright,
 That soupit had in chalmer royallie :
 Thus pair and pair thay prefent pleafantlie.
 The King Clariodus commandit thair
 The Lord Conftabill to take his Sister faire,
 The Queine of Spainȝe, and leid hir in the danfe ;
 The quhilke he did anone without neance :
 And he himself the Queine led of Galice :
 The King of Spainȝe led Meliades :
 The King Palexis led Donas maift bening,
 450 Whilk Sister was of Spainȝe to the King :
 King Amandur led Cedar that was cleire,
 Whilk was the King of Galice dochter deire :
 Sir Gilȝeam de la Forreft led the Duches,
 The quhilke ane Ladie fair and luftie was :
 Ane Countes led Sir Richard de Mayance :
 And utheris Lordis and Ladies of pleafance

ȝeid in the danſe, with countinancē demure.
 The King of Galice and the Count Eſlure
 Not danſit, bot abaid in companie
 460 With Philipon that was King [maift] worthie.
 The uther Ladies, that lift not for to dance,
 Sat with the Queine, to pryſe and to advanſe
 Them that beſt danſit of that luſtie forte.
 And on this wayis glaidlie can them diſport
 Ane weill long ſpace. And quhen the dance was ceiſit,
 Princes and Ladies to thair chalmers preiſit.
 King Clariodus the Conſtabill hes taine,
 And to the King of Spainis chalmer is gane,
 And unto him he ſaid, My Brother deire,
 470 I will my Sifter borrow at ȝow heire,
 The Ladie Donas ; thairto I ȝow exhorte,
 That we aue quhyle may commoun and diſporte
 Into the chalmer with Meliades.
 The King him anſweirit into humbill wayis,
 Fair Brother, all beine ȝouris that beine myne.
 With this to uther ather can inclyne.
 He tuike fair Donas, that luſtie was to feine,
 And garte the Conſtabill of France leid the Queine.
 And then thay went upon the famine wayis,
 480 Unto the Kingis chalmer of Galice,
 And tuike with him ȝoung Cadder that was faire.
 Syne to the chalmer glaidlie can repaire
 Of Queine Meliades ; and in the way
 To Donas King Clariodus can fay,
 Madame, I have to your Brother the King,
 Anent ȝour mariage ſent my wryting,
 Thairwith to be advyſit of that eace ;
 And I him thanke that in that mater lies

Done all according unto my intent ;
 490 And veralie, if that \ge wald consent,
 I wald \ge waddit Amandur the King ;
 And suithlie if I trowit that this thing
 Sould \gtrsim ow displeife, I wald it schow no way ;
 Now quhat \ge thinke of this to me \ge fay.
 Scho said, My fair Brother, [full] weill I knew
 That \ge no thing into this world me schaw
 Bot it according war to my honour ;
 My Brotheris will and \gtrsim ouris at all houre
 I will obey. And this full soberlie
 500 Scho said, and fmyllit sum deall quyetlie ;
 Quhilk he persavit, and the caus [he] speirit
 Why that scho lewch. And quhen scho was requyrit
 The caufe to tell ; then said scho womanlie,
 Why that I lewch, if \ge rememberit be
 When with my Brother \ge war into Spaine,
 The trewth heirof I fall tell \gtrsim ow [all] plaine,
 When with \gtrsim our Sister weddit was the King,
 Betwix us two was quyet commoning,
 I spake to \gtrsim ow belonging \gtrsim our mariage,
 510 I lewgh quhen [that] I thoght on that language ;
 For then certes thair was no man on lyfe
 Whom to that I defyrit to be wyfe
 Bot unto \gtrsim ow, quhairof none fould me blame
 To have defyret the Knight of nobileft fame
 In all the world, thoght I so symple was ;
 For it perteinit to \gtrsim our nobilnes
 To have ane ladie of mair lustiheid,
 As \ge have now withoutin ony dreid.
 My faire Sister, said [King] Clariodus,
 520 I thanke \gtrsim ow of \gtrsim our [love,] that gratiouſ

Stude towards me into fike [ane] degrie ;
 For suith it beine ane fair debait, said he,
 Of two fair Ladies upon fike ane wayes,
 Of ȝow Sifter and of Meliades.

With gudlie wordis and plefant commoning
 Thir lustie Knightis and thir Ladies ȝing
 Enterit in the chalmer of this ȝoung Queine,
 Meliades the rose of bewtie scheine.

Scho raife upon hir feit full courteillie,

530 With all the Ladies of hir companie ;
 And doun fcho fet the Queine, hir Sifter faire,
 Upon ane couschen of claih of gold preclaire
 Abone hir self, qubilk alwayis scho refusit ;
 Bot at that tyme scho nicht not be excusit.
 With fair treatie scho gart hir take that place,
 And scho fate doune betwix hir and Donas.
 The ȝoung Cedar scho gart them fet before,
 That thay might at thair eafe speike all the more.
 The King Clariodus and the Lord Constabill

540 Commoned with uther Lordis amiabill,
 And them disportit with full grite folace.
 And monie ane lustie ladie fair of face
 Was in that blythfull chalmer of plesance,
 Ane with ane uther maid [thair] aquantance,
 Ladeis of France, Spainȝe, and Inglande,
 As thay had all beine nureist in ane lande.
 Ilke King disportit theme full plesandlie
 Amongs thaife ladies that war womanlie.
 The tyme thay schorte with heartis glaid and licht,
 550 Whill neir the houre was cumit of midnicht ;
 And thay war loath ȝit than for to diffever,
 Thir ladies tyre of uther could thay never.

Bot quhen the gudlie fresch Meliades
 Saw that thay wald depart upon this wayis,
 Scho callit Romaryn, and gart hir gone
 Unto ane calfer, and gart hir fetch anone
 Ane croun of gold that maffie was and wight,
 All set with ftonis radious and licht,
 And two riche hearts of gold all birning new,
 560 Circulate with roobies and sapheiris blew.
 Into hir hand feho tuike the crounall schein,
 And said richt thus unto the Spainȝe Queine,
 My Sister fair, in France was maid this croun,
 And for that it is maid of new faschoun
 ȝe fall it have with gow in ȝour cuntrie ;
 The quhilk for to refave full laith was schein :
 Bot feho hes hir besought in fik maneire,
 That feho hes taine the croun of gemis cleir,
 Reverencing hir Sister grittumlie.

570 The two heartis of gold that war lustie
 Scho gave to Donas and to Cedar faire ;
 And unto everie ladie that was thair
 Scho gave reward and that full largelie.
 Quhilke the Lord Constabill perfavit tentivelie,
 And ever ilk wight of he and law degrie
 Grittumlie praisit hir liberalitie.
 Thir Princeffis hes thane thair leavis taine,
 Them to convoy this Ladie wald have gaine :
 Bot thay wald not hir suffer in no way ;

580 For it the use of Ingland was perfay,
 Ladies the nicht before their mariage
 Sould dwell in chalmeris, of auld usage,
 Whill thay went to the kirke to sposifit be ;
 So stude that Ladie in that ilk degrie.

Efter the leave the King Clariodus
 Baid with the Queine, for he was amorous.
 They spake ane quhyle wordis plesand and faire ;
 And fyne he tuike ane diamond full cleire
 And gave to hir, and kiflit hir alfo ;
 590 And fyne him grathit efter the leave to go.
 The Queine of Spayne schew unto the King
 The gift that was so honorabill and ding,
 Unto hir gevin be Meliades.
 The King forsuith it [weill] can ruse and praiete.
 Bot moir abaid ilk ane to beddis gois,
 Them with the nightis rest for to repose,
 Except worke men that war laborius,
 And bissie makand workis curious ;
 Sum for the cleithing into fresch aray
 600 Of Lords and Knights ; and sum for the turnay ;
 Sum [for] to build the listis tuike grite cure ;
 Sum bissie was for to forge new armour ;
 And sum to make the barras great and wyde.
 Thus everie man was bissie to provide
 For thingis longing to this nobill feift,
 Whill that the day up sprang into the eift ;
 And when that Phebus did all the world ouerschyne,
 Craftismen thair worke biffielie did fyne.
 When that the Duike of Miland hes hard taulde
 610 Of this wading, and qnhan that it sould hauld,
 He fent thrie sommeris chargit richlie
 To King Clariodus that was worthie,
 Ane chargit was with cloth of gold full deir,
 Ane uther with filver chargit was most cleire,
 The third with silke the best in that cuntrie,
 For he was full of liberalitie ;

And to ane nobill man he hes them taught,
 The Knight Lumbarde, that in the listis faught
 With King Clariodus but variance,
 620 He callit is Sir Amé de Plafance.
 Sex fresch varlots he did delyver thaire,
 And four stout fquyeris with him for to fair.
 The Duike of Miland bad that he sould wend
 Into Ingland, and thair him recommend
 To King Clariodus in forme reverent,
 And thaise thrie sommeris unto him present.
 This Knight he maid no longer refidene,
 Bot hes him sped with so grite diligence
 That he hade all compleitit his voyage
 630 Againe the day of the ilk mariage.
 And as the King addreslit him to ryse,
 The Knight Lumbard upon ane gudlie wayis
 Is enterit in at the port of the toun,
 And at the Paliceȝ get is lichtit dounie ;
 Into the Court weill knowin was the Knight.
 And then alsweith as [that] thay hade ane fight,
 Of him thay told to King Clariodus,
 Of his cuming whilk was full joyous,
 And said that he wald prefence have anone.
 640 Then foune ane [fair] meffage is for him gone.
 Thay chargit him to cum unto the King,
 And said, that he was glaid of his cuming.
 His four fquyeris this Knight hes with him taine,
 And bad the varlots with the horse remaine,
 And to the Kingis chalmer passit he,
 [And kneillit doun, quhen he the King did sie,]
 Upon his knie richt fair and reverentlie.
 The King Clariodus full tenderlie

Refavit him with full glaid countinance,
 650 And faid, Welcum, Sir Amé de Plifance,
 What tidings have ge broght in this cuntrie ?
 All guide unto your Hienes, Sir, faid he,
 The Duke of Myland dois him recommend
 Unto gour Hienes, quhilk with me hes fend
 To gow thrie sommeris chargit richlie
 With cloath of gold and filver richt mightie.
 How dois my Brother the Duike, fayis the King,
 I thought full long to heir of him tyding.
 At my depairting, Sir, richt weill fuire he,
 660 I left him into gude prosperitie.
 The squeris went againe to horse glaidlie,
 And loufit hes the summeris bisfilie,
 And broght the clothis thair unto the King,
 The quhilk them praisit into mikill thing.
 Thay oppinit them on breade upon ane tabill,
 The quhilk to sie was fair and amiabill.
 The King gart deale them all but more proces,
 And distribuite them glaidlie more and les.
 The Kingis, Princes, and Queinis of honoure,
 670 And uther Lordis and Knightis of valoure,
 Thus distribuite thir cloathis in this wayis,
 All bot two peices to Meliades.

Then enterit in the chalmer the Constabill,
 Thanking the King on wayis honorabill
 Of the fair cloath of gold that he him fend ;
 And eike he faid, that tyme it was to wend
 Unto the kirk. The King Clariodus
 Him veslit hes in cloathis full pretious,
 And put on him anone ane rob royall.
 680 Be this the houshold was arrayit all,

To go to kirke into thair beft aray,
 Thay war ane lustie companie perfay.
 Meliades, this ȝoung and lustie Queine,
 Was in ane kirtill of cloath of gold beseine
 Of quhyte culoure, with curious champe of floure
 Pouderit with pearlis, as the bright dew pure ;
 With mantill of the famyne, rich and deire,
 With taill full long, quhilk buire ane Ladie cleire ;
 Ane broach of gold, with stonis casting licht,
 690 Togidder held hir glorious mantill bright.
 Ane royall croun was fet upon her heid,
 Owerfret with stonis mightie blew and reid ;
 And lustillie fcho fat in feige royall,
 Of all bewtie as floure imperiall.

The King Clariodus of grite renoune,
 With thrie Kingis triumphand under croune,
 Convoyit was to kirke full royallie.
 Thair was with him King Philipon worthie,
 The King Palexis and King Amandur,
 700 With monie ane Duke and Lord of [grit] honoure.
 Two mightie Kings of Spainȝie and Galeice
 To kirke leidis the fresch Meliades.
 Thair followit hir thrie Ladies weil beseine,
 In fresch aray and full of bewtie scchein.
 Full monie ane Ladie [bricht] did hir convoy ;
 Thair was the Duches fair of Bellavoy ;
 Of Beline countrie thair was the Duches fair ;
 Of Glocester the Duches eik was thair ;
 With monie ane uther Duches and Countes,
 710 And seimlie Ladies of grite nobilnes ;
 The Ladie Cadder, and fair Donas alfo,
 Whilk honorabillie the Queinis nixt did go.

And after all thir Ladies fresh and scheine,
 Thair followit threttie Ladies weil befeine,
 All cled in cloath of silver of delyte,
 With perlit hatis schyning of culour quhyte.
 Full monie silver trumpit and clarion
 Befor them past with noyse throw the toun,
 With everie maner of uther minstrallie.

720 The rewis all war flintit right richlie
 With cloathes of gold, and arras wounder faire.
 The royltie I cannot half declaire
 Was them among on this triumphall day,
 Thair jolitie, thair festing, and thair play.
 To kirke thay come. What is thair more to tell,
 For he onlie, that is of Knightheid well,
 Beine spoufit to the floure of womanheid,
 Before monie ane Prince of nobilheid,
 And monie lustie Ladie honorabill,

730 [That marchallit war by the Lord Constatill
 Efter the order of thair nobilnes.]
 Ane Archbischope anone them maryit hes ;
 Ane mese was singin ryght solemnitlie,
 With sound of organs, and with melodie.
 And quhen the service all [thair] endit wes,
 First can the King Clariodus him dres
 On gudlie wayis furth of the kirke to go.
 The King of Spainȝe, and of Galice alfo,
 Convoyit him with monie Duike and Lord.

740 And trewlie, as myne Authore can recordre,
 The King Palexis, and King Amandur,
 Alsweith convoyit this Princes of honoure
 Unto the Paliceȝ getis of renoune,
 The minstrellis [playing] with ane myrrie sound.

Thay enterit in the close that was right faire,
 Abone arrayit, as ge harde of aire.
 The gait and gries, arrayit to the hall,
 Was all of marbill quhyte, and coverit all
 With costlie arras and curious workis feire ;
 750 Whilk thay alcendit have in fair maneire.

This royall fort unto the hall is gone,
 Quhair the hie tabill was raisit anone ;
 And on the deice on [the] most gudlie wayis
 Was fet this lustie Queine Meliades ;
 Hir Mother the Queine fate on hir right hande,
 And nixt her fate the King of Spainȝe land,
 And syne the Queine of Galice fair to fe,
 With Donas and Caddar baith full lustie,
 And syne of Belum cuntrie the Duches ;
 760 And on hir uther hand [eik] set thair was
 The King of Spainȝe, the Count of Eſtur,
 The King of Galice gudlie of stature,
 Of Brataleme the Duches of bewtie,
 The Duches of Bellavoy of Spainȝie cuntrie.

When royallie the deice [all] fet was thus,
 Anone the nobill King Clariodus,
 King Philippon and [eik] King Amandure,
 The King Palexis and [the] Earle Eſtur,
 The Lord Conſtabill and uther Lordis feire,
 770 Unto the grite chalmer went all in feire,
 The Maifters of houſhold and Conſtabill before ;
 They war all fet, but ony proces more.
 The King Clariodus forȝet hes noct
 The Lumbard [Knicht ;] bot garrit him be broght,
 And fet him in ane honorabill place.
 The threttie Virginis, that war fair of face,

Into the hall war marchellit them allone.
 All uther Lordis and Ladies everilk one
 Discreitlie set war efter thair degrie.

780 The trumpits blawis with ane noyse fullie,
 Whill all the Palice wallis did redound.
 Ower all the hall the courfis did abound ;
 Grite was the feift, and royall was the cheire,
 And pleafand was the menfrellis for to heire
 In hall amongs this royall companie ;
 With intermeifis playit mirrilie,
 And small padȝounis that war delectabill,
 Amongs the plefand courfis ineftimabill :
 Whairfor the maner paſſis manis ingyne,
 790 To tell the meits also of fyndrie kynd,
 Or ȝit the wynis nobill and mightie,
 Quhairof the buirde was fervit by and by.

The Conſtabill ſaid to Clariodus,
 Now fall it weill be knowin unto us,
 Be ȝour having and be ȝour countinance,
 If that ȝe keipe unto the King of France
 That ȝe promitit at ȝour departing,
 For now it is the day of hir ſpouſing ;
 Weill aught ȝe glaid and joyous for to be
 800 For faike of hir the floure of all bewtie.
 Thus anſweirit hes the King Clariodus ;
 How foulde ane man be glaider of his ſpous.
 Nor he foulde of his foverane Ladie be ?
 Then lewch they both and maid ane mirrie glie.
 Then faid anone to him King Philipon,
 Ha, [my] fair Sone, will ȝe be of them one
 Unto thair wyfis that becumis thrall ?
 Thairto no thing I counſall ȝow at all.

Thus war they all in joyous commoning.

810 The Constabill, but longer taryng,
Up raife and went to feift them in the hall.
King Clariodus him callit thair withall,
And privallie he roundit in his eare,
And said, My Brother, ȝe beire this rubie cleire,
And at my only instance and requeift,
It present to the Ladie of the feift ;
And say, The Knight fulfillit of all joy,
Devoyde of everilk forrow and of noy,
In ane rememberance hes it to hir send,
820 Unto hir bewtie doing him recommend.

The Constabill the rubie tuike anone,
And said, Glaidlie ȝour meffage I fall gone ;
Syne throw the Palice he passit joyouſlie,
Convoyit with Knights wounder royllie.
To the hie deice [anone] but more abaid
He paſt with countinanc right blyth and glaid,
And all the Ladies [thair] of fresch bewtie,
He feiftit hes, that joy was for to fie,
With mirrie wordis and [richt] pleafante cheir ;

830 For he ane maſter was and no ſcolleir
Into like thing, as then it was weill feine ;
For he ane Lord of full grit nurture beine.
When he had cheirit them ane weill long fpace,
About the tabill he passit hes apaice,
Whill he come to the Queine Meliades,
And hir the rubie gave in fecreit wayis,
Saying, The Knight fulfillit of plefance,
This ring ȝow fent in [ane] remeberance.
Scho tuike the ring but ony perſaving ;

840 For scho fo fleidfaſt was in hir having,

That naine perfave might be hir countinance
When that s^cho felt of paine or of plisance.

So happinit or the dinner was endit,
That Sir Porrus of Portugall affendit
Into the Palice, for oppine was everie porte,
Full wyde upset, the trewth for to report ;
With him was knightis ten right honorabill,
And twentie squyeris fresch and amiabill.
This Knight be fortoune and be thrawart fate

850 Into ane lyoun long was deformat,
Quhill King Clariodus, be his chevalrie,
Redeimit him be batell mightillie.
Soun to the Constabill this was tauld anone,
The quhilk foure squyers hes gart for him gone.
And he anone hes cum to his prefence,
And helfit him with all dew reverence.
The Constabill said, Welcum, Sir Porrus,
For he him knew both worthie and chevelrus.
He hes him reverencit, and said anone,

860 My [gude] Lord, with ζ our leave now I wald gone
To Queine Meliades with fresch effeire,
I have ane present [unto] hir to beire.
The Constabill said, So mote I have joy,
I fall unto my Ladie ζ ow convoy.
He hes him led to Queine Meliades,
Whom the Knight helfit hes upon this wayis,
Saying, The Lord, that power hes of all,
Conserve ζ our Hienes and estait royall,
Togidder with ζ our [moft] great excellencie.

870 I comin am to thank ζ our hie clemence
Of the moft bliffull and happie delyverance
Of my proterve miffortune and mischance

Be King Clariodus ; for none bot he
 Nixt God micht of my fate delyver me ;
 Whom to was no remeid, bot if the best
 Knight of this world, and eik the gentilest,
 Redemit me out of my paine and wo :
 Whairfor in [his] rememberance ever mo,
 That in this warld is of knightheid [the] floure,

880 His airis fall be nureift with honoure
 Into this creddell of gold all forgit bright,
 Descending ay to his successioun right ;
 Thus, fall his regall stok and his offspring
 Have of thair nobill progenitours loving.
 With that he gart his armigers offend
 The creddill of gold gudlie to commend,
 Of sik ane curions worke and quantitie
 Two men togidder might laide into it be.
 Then everie Prince and Princes at tabill

890 Said that it was ane gift most honorabill,
 And said, thay had not feine fo rich ane gift,
 Both of fo grite ane quantitie and micht.
 The Queine him thankit hes on fair maneir.
 The grite Lord Constabill fent for Bonvaleir,
 And him delyverit this jewell pretious,
 And bad him have it to hir thefaur hous.
 The Maisteris of houhhold fyne he did command
 This nobill Knight to feift with cheir pleisand.
 Thay him obeyit with countinance joyous ;

900 Bot first unto the King Clariodus
 Thay him convoyit have full gentillie.
 He him refavit and thankit full tenderlie
 Of his present. And fyne unto the hall
 Thay go with him, and maid him feift royall.

Thairefter at the portis can dounre licht
 Sir Brounar de la Haunt, that gentill Knight,
 Of quhois schoulder the King Clariodus
 Drew furth the arrow that was venomus.
 He broght with him sex courfouriis in gud plicht,
 910 And sex fair haiknayis as the snew [all] quhyte,
 And them presentit to Meliades.
 And he anone, upon the famine wayis,
 Declairit hes right [loud] before the tabill,
 How he of ane hurt [that was] uncurabill
 Lay in the tent remeildes day and night,
 Whill King Clariodus the gentill Knight
 [Had] him releivit furth of his distres ;
 And so furth schew the maner mair and les,
 How in this world [thair] was no mediceine
 920 That na uther wight might worke be ingyne.
 Thay feifit him with glaid and mirrie cheire.
 The Count of Estur and his Ladie cleire
 Grite joy [than] hade in heart of the honour
 That to thair sone was donne in that [ilk] houre.
 Efter all uther intermeisfe feire,
 As of the latter courfe thay servit wer,
 Twentie young children of fourtine geiris age
 On tame lyounis quhalpis, I ingage,
 Full gudlie into purpur silk arrayit,
 930 Come in before them ryding unafrayit,
 Sadillit and brydillit and put to poynt at right ;
 And twentie virginis that war blyth and bright,
 Of the famyne age, on unicornis fair,
 With harnischingis pleafant and preclaire,
 Abuilȝeit frefchlie in the famine hew,
 And all in hatis greine, and fair and new ;

And everie madine that was into that place
 Ane luftie varlot led in goldin lace,
 With speiris in thair handis everie one.

940 And quhen thay war all enterit in, anone
 The madinis lichtit gudlie to behald ;
 The varlots tuike thair unicorns to hald ;
 And thay begouth to gang in carralling,
 And so with that fo mirrillie thay sing,
 That everie wight thair beine had joy to heir,
 Thair voices was so angell lyke and cleire.
 And as the madinis song upon this wayes,
 The varlots justit and maid interpryse ;
 And he, that from his horse was strikine doun,
 950 Gave to his fellow ane ring for his ranfoun ;
 And he that ring gave to ane Ladie seheine,
 And scho againe gave him hir hat of greine,
 And did full womanlie to him inclyne.
 [This done] betwix hir and hir fellow, fyne
 Scho tuike him in the ring with grit plefance ;
 Syne lufillie begouth thay all to dancee.
 And this was donne, that everie wight might fie ;
 For all the clofe of [full] large quantitie
 That day was ordanit to the triumphall hall,
 960 With cloathes of gold it was coverit all ;
 And Lordis in the chalmieris round about
 At fenisteris and windowis luikit out.
 All faw playit this royall intermeis,
 The quhilke furmuntit into lufines
 So far, that thay hade wonder it to se,
 Saying, forsuith that thay in no cuntrie
 Hade feine siklyke into no tyme before.
 And quhen thoſe madinis of bewtie fo decore

Had lang disportit [thus] and playit glaide,
 970 The varlots hes the unicornis to them hade,
 And fet them on thair fadillis lustillie,
 Syne on thair lyounis lape delyverlie,
 And of the hall thay past without tarie,
 And Queine Proserpina with hir Court of Fari.

The aucht Maisteris of houfhald ordanit hes
 To draw the buirdis and to fay the grace.
 At the hie deice upraifit was the tabill.
 Kingis and Princefis that war honorabill
 Dispoilȝeit them of thair robis fair,
 980 And them delyverit unto heralds thair
 Of monie diverse realmis of grit honouris
 Into thair mightie Princes coat armouris,
 Quhilk gyftis gat to make them rich for ever.
 Ane fairer fight senfyne [thair] feine was never,
 Of Kingis, Queinis, Princes honorabill,
 Duikis, Lordis, and Ladies amiabill
 Within ane Palice nor was it in, I wife,
 Whair thair was nothing wanting of wárlds blise.
 All minstrellis then with inftrumentis are gone,
 990 Both lute, harp, viole, clarcheo, and guthrone,
 To play into the grite triumphall hall,
 Whair monie ane Prince in thair estait royll
 Abaid, with monie ane [luftie] Princes faire,
 And monie ane Ladie blyth and debonare.
 Then faid Clariodus the nobill King
 To the Constabill his Brother, I defyre the thing,
 That ȝe first go to leid into the dance
 My Lady my spos, for that war my pleafance ;
 Quhilk for to do he did refuise at all,
 1000 Considering thair was Princes in the hall

Hir for to leid quhom [it] did more perteine :
 Bot ȝit this Prince he will that so fould beine,
 For unto him he will doe that honoure,
 For he in France was Lord of grite valoure ;
 Whairfor the King, of grite confiderance,
 Both for the faike of the nobill King of France,
 And for his awin great wit and nobilnes,
 He did grit honour unto him dreidles.

Then the Lord Constatill into gudlie wayis

1010 The dance begane with Queine Meliades ;
 The mightie King of Spain led Cadder scheine,
 And the Duike of Bellavoy led the Queine
 Of Spainȝe cuntrie ; ane uther Duike also
 With the Duches of Bellavoy in the dance can go ;
 Ane Duches [eik] led Amandur the King,
 And King Palexis led Donas the ȝeing ;
 Ane luffie Earle of Ingland regioun
 Of Yorke did leid the Duchess of renoune ;
 And eik the King Clariodus worthie
 1020 Of Spainȝe cuntrie led ane fair Ladie.

Thair dancit monie ane uther lord and knight
 With monie ane ladie and fresch virgine bright.

Forget was not Sir Amé de Valeir,
 Nor ȝit the nobill Sir Charles de le Scareir.

Sir Gilliam de la Forrest thair did go,
 Sir Richard de Maianis dansit thair also.
 For to be mirrie thay neidit no reueit,
 For none war glaider nor thay war of the feit.
 Full long it war thair namis to declair,

1030 Or ȝit to specifie thair danfing thair.
 The Queine of Ingland sat at the lie dice,
 With diverse ladies, both Duches and Countes,

Beholding on the dansing with fixit eie.
 Grite was the joy, triumph, and royaltie ;
 Grite was the mirth, the pleasance, and the sporte,
 That was, God wote, among that lustie forte.
 Full monie ane Knight with Cupidis awfull deart
 Amongs thame thair was woundit to the heart,
 Whilk efterwart of langour did complaine,
 1040 Excellent bewtie so did them constraine
 Thair for to love all magrie thair intent.
 Full monie ane feacreite luike among them went.
 With full defyre thair hearts war fet on fyre,
 Throw lovis thirst, heatest of defyre.
 Thair the Lord Constabill hurt was with ane fight,
 Sun thing that day he wist of lovis might
 Onlie throw bewtie of ane ladie schein,
 And at ane fight his heart all holdin beine
 To ane anone, as can my Authore tell ;
 1050 Upon sik thing as now I may not dwell.
 I will gow tell of ane [grit] aventoure
 By Ladie Fortunis purvenance and cure,
 Into the Court the quhilk betyde anone,
 Quhilk ge fall heir, or that I farther gone ;
 And efter that returne againe I will,
 And of the feist the leave will tell gow till.
 So happinit in the meane quhyle to be,
 Ane Herald come [thair] from Polyne cuntrie,
 Whilk callit was to name Bonadventur,
 1060 Whom King Clariodus with biffie cure
 Had sent with credence to Polyne to the King,
 Him heighting in his weiris sum supporting
 Againis the Duike of Gravan, quhom betweine
 Full grit debait [thair] had [ane] long tyme beine :

Bot thay agriet war or his cuming ;
Thus he returnit hame unto the King.

When it was told to King Clariodus
Of his Herald, that [he] was cumit thus,
Unto his chalmer he went the neireft way,

1070 And for the Herald fent without delay.

The Herald saluft him upon his knie,
Saying to him, the eternall God gow sie ;
The King of Polyne him to gow commendis,
And to gour Hienes heartlie greeting fendis,
Gow thanking ofter nor I can heir reporte,
Of gour promit him to at neid suporte.

He and the Duik of Gravan ar at ane,
Betwix them two the weiris ar all gaine :
Bot as I come out throw the realme of France,

1080 I faw the King make royll ordinance
For tornament, for joy, for feift, for play
At Pareis toun againe gour mariage day ;
To quhilk was dreslit monie ane Lord and Knight,
And monie ane lustie Ladie blyth and bright,
In companies thik ryding throw the fieldis,
With bairdit steidis, harneis, speir and fcheildis ;
And in the honour of gour grit renoune,
He makis all that great provisioun.

And eik the Queine with all hir Ladies bright

1090 Gour wadding schupe to worschip at thair might
With royll feifting, dansing and disport.
And scho avowit befor that lustie forte
Unto the Powne that fet was on the tabill,
This King is suithfaſt and undouſtabill.
And ane thing, Sir, I fall gow tell for treuth,
I faw ane fight quhairof I hade grite rewth,

Bot heir without the toun ane litill way.
 Fyftine Knightis enarmit war perfay,
 Quhilk reveist fyvetine Virginis had unright,
 1100 Thinking with thame to ly [on] this ilk night,
 And of thair virginities them to deflore.
 Full faft the Madinis mercie did implore ;
 Bot thay with cruell heartis but pitie
 Demanis thame, that pitie is to sie.
 Then akit King Clariodus, if thay
 War passit far. He answeirit and said, Nay,
 I ges themȝ git bot at the Woll, said he,
 Without the toune that standis by the trie,
 Whair Ladies usis in thair disport to go,
 1110 It callit is the Ladies Woll also.

On Bonvaleir than callit he anone,
 And bad him swiftlie for his harnes gone,
 And fadell him ane courfour that was wight,
 And bad the Herald go at all his might,
 Unto the postrum fuddanlie him bring,
 And thair for to abyde on his cuming.
 With speir in hand [that was] both long and wight,
 Bonvaleir sounen armis [at] right,
 And he anone unto the postrum went,
 1120 And on his horse ascendit or he flint.
 Upon his heid he did his helme on lace,
 And them commandit both into that place
 That they discover him in no maneir :
 Syne chargit he his varlot Bonvaleir,
 Alleane into his chalmer to sojorne
 All quyetlie againe quhill he returne ;
 And if his brother the Constatill speire
 Whair he was gaine, to tell on this maneir,

That he was in aue ffreteit erant went,
 1130 And wald againe him speid incontinent.
 And than he tuike his mightie speir in hand,
 And swiftlie he did gallope ouer the land.
 Thir Squyeris both thay fat on kneis doun,
 Prayand to him that wore the bludie croun
 Him to conserue from all misaventure,
 Thay him betaught in Godis blisfit houre,
 And to the chalmer soune returnit thay.

Clariodus, in all the haitt he may,
 Upon the Knightis followit hes so fast,
 1140 Whill that he hes ouertaine them at the laft,
 Saying, O Knightis, ge abyde for ihame !
 Doe not so grit dishonour to gour name,
 As for to leid the Madinis on that wayis ;
 The Ordour of Knightheid ye [do] dispyle,
 On sike aue wayis fair Ladies to offend ;
 For ge thair quarrell rather fould defend,
 Nor them to trubill so on sik maneir.
 Sir Knight, thay said, grit folie to gow it wer,
 As now to schaipe our deidis to correct,
 1150 For at this tyme ge may ws not object.
 I fall refist, quod he, if that I may.
 Thairwith the formeit schupe him to assay.
 Thay set thair speiris sadlie in the reist,
 And awfullie towart uther thay preift ;
 And certanlie the King Clariodus
 He hit him sik aue strake dispiteous,
 That horse and man went both unto the ground,
 Whill that his helme did from the eard redound.
 The fecond and the third doun run hes he
 1160 So fellowunlie, that naine was of thaife thrie

Bot ather his leg or arme he brift in two.
 And quhen the Madinis saw he provit so,
 Right heartfullie to God they for him prayit.
 The twelf Knightis with heartis unaffrayit,
 Then set on him with fwordis all at onis,
 Traifting to brift him, fell, blood and bonis.
 Quhen this persavit King Clariodus,
 With fword in hand as lyoun furious,
 Full earneflike he enterit them amang ;

1170 With mortall straikis he among them dang,
 That it was wounder him to behald and fie,
 For he begouth into his wraith to be ;
 Was none so stalwart that his straik gainefluide,
 For as ane tyger that beine fearse and wode,
 He on them ruschit than with awfull faire,
 With bloudie fword thame chafing heir and thair,
 Brifting thair steill helmis in his ire and teine,
 Straiking thair steidis from them on the greine,
 Carving thair lymbis and armis ay in funder,

1180 So monie of them thair steidis lay in under.
 The Knightis war abaisit grittumlie,
 Of him that them tormentit so fellounlie ;
 Ane feind thay thocht him lyker nor ane man,
 For of his fighting ever mair he can.
 Thay straik at him so thik and fast withall
 As dois the hammeris on the studie fall ;
 Thay woundit him upon the arme full sore,
 Whairthrow his courage increffit ay the more ;
 For quhen he saw his blood rin doun so reid

1190 He grew in anger and in mortall feid,
 And on them ruschit with fik violence,
 With so grit furie and grit vehemence,

He huntit them with [sik] ane feirfull cheire,
 Right as the awfull hundis dois the deire,
 And skaillit them full wyde before his face,
 As the fearse lyoun dois small beiftis chafe ;
 Upon the greine he gave them tant for tant,
 Whill that thay grew so weirie and so faint,
 And put them so far to confusioun,

1200 That thay could not bot ly in thair ranfoune,
 As ȝoldin men his dintis to refave,
 And could not take the straikis that he gave.
 And quhen thay saw [that] thair was no remeid,
 Bot them to ȝeild, or ellis for to be deid,
 Thay faid to him at onis pitioufie,
 Ha ! Flour of Knightheid, grant to ws mercie,
 And fave our lyfis, for thy mikill might,
 As thow that beine in earth the gentilleft Knight.
 Then faid the King, Gif ȝe will have mercie,

1210 Go to the toun ȝe fall standing us by ;
 Unto the Kingis Palice ȝe fall speir,
 And thair ȝe fall enter but ony feir,
 Whair ȝe fall entrie have for finall reueist,
 And ȝeild ȝow to the Ladie of the feift ;
 Your prissoun fall be soft, I tak on me,
 If that ȝe be all taine with hir bewtie ;
 And eike ȝe fall promit, or that ȝe wende,
 In tym cuming ȝe fall ȝour lyfes amend,
 And never againe doe Ladies sik unright,

1220 Bot ay defend thair quarrell with ȝour might ;
 And eik the Madinis ȝe fall restore
 Unto thair freindis quhair thay war before.
 Thay faid anone, We fall do ȝour bidding
 Into all poynts, fave onlie this ane thing,

That is to say, to have thir Madins againe,
Quhilk if we doe doubtles we falbe flaine.

This weill considerit King Clariodus.

The damofellis that glaid war and joyous,
On kneis fell to him full humbillie,

1230 And wald his feit have kislit tenderlie ;
Bot he wald not them suffer to do so.

So twentie Knightis fearflie come but ho,
Upon thair steidis swifflie at the spuris,
To feik the Knights that donne them sik injuris,
And wald with fwordis have upon them beine ;
Bot King Clariodus lape them betweine,
And said, My friendis, no worchip war gow to,
Unto thir Knights more hermis [for] to doe ;
Then thankit be God of his eternall grace,

1240 Thir Madinis beine recourfit upon cace.

And quhen they have [weill] understand that he
Was onlie victour of so grit meingē,
Thay war sore wonderit into mikill thing,
And come to him [full] lowlie inclyning ;
And him thay thankit thair with all thair might,
As of the world the most nobilleft Knight,
And prayit him his name to them to kyth.
And he anone hes anfweirit them belyve,
My name I never denyit, norȝit fall,

1250 Clariodus of Ester thay me call.

And quhen thay wist it was Clariodus,
Thay fell upon thair kneis, faying thus,
O nobilleft Knight of most excellent fame,
Out throw the world springin is ȝour name ;
ȝour knightlie deidis and heigh chevalrie,
In laude and honour rings unto the skie ;

We ar not grit amervellit of this deid,
 Sen that *ȝe* ar the flour of all knighthheid,
 Whom God haith fent our chyldren to perfew ;

1260 We falbe faithfull servitours and trew
 To gow for all the dayis of our lyfe.
 The nobill King ane freindschip maid belyve
 Among the Knights ; and syne did thame requyre
 That thay wald go with him to the suppeir.
 Thay have him reverencit full grittumlie,
 Syne to the Palice thay [all] raid glaidlie.
 The other Knightis maid varlots for to gone
 Unto the wode and litteris maid anone,
 Whairin thay have four woundit Knightis laid,

1270 And fend them hame withoutin mair abaid
 With four varlotis in thair companie,
 Quhilk ludging tuik in the nixt toun thairby ;
 Syne at the King thay tuike thair leave and went,
 Thair promise to fulfill incontinent.
 And he hes ridin againe the privie way
 Unto the postrom, as *ȝe* hard me say.
 I leive now of Clariodus ane quhyle,
 And sumthing now my pen I will exyle,
 Schortlie to speik of thir elevin Knights,

1280 Quhilk to the Palice for to go them dichts.
 Thir Knightis at the Palice get lichtit doun,
 And enterit at the portis of renoune,
 Ascendit syne up the gries of the hall ;
 Thay that them saw did wounder ane and all.
 As diamonds in armour bright thay schone,
 And thay all woundit war and bluid begone.
 To hall thay went and passit throw the preis,
 And or thay flint thay come to the hie deice.

Anon the menstrells ceiffit for to play,
 1290 And Lordis left the dance for the afrai ;
 For as them thought it was ane uncouth thing,
 In bluidie harneis to sie thair incumming.
 In sylence was the hall of most and leift.
 Thay speirit quha was Ladie of the feift,
 And thay tham kennit to Meliades.
 Then all on knies thay sat on humbill wayis,
 And said, Madame, unto gour blyth bewtie
 We geild us heir all prefoners to be,
 To do with ws ryght as gourselfin list ;
 1300 For of this world the nobilleft Knight and beft
 Ws all hes conqueift with his [awin] hand,
 And uther foure in poynft of death lyand.
 Syne quhen he had ws wone with grit mellie,
 From twentie Knightis of grit cruetie
 He ws recourfis againe richt nobillie,
 And ws confervet from thair felonie.
 They callit him the Knight of joy compleit,
 Whois heart of everie plesour beine replete.
 Then worde by worde they [all] the maner told
 1310 Of thair meiting, and of the bargane bold,
 And of his knightlie strenth and his vigoure,
 And how he maid the [haill] discomfiture.
 When they had long his honour done proclame,
 Thay said, Madame, if ge wald wit his name,
 Clariodus of Eftur thay him call.
 Then full of blife and glaidnes was the hall,
 And thay all cryit with ane cheir joyous,
 VIVE, VIVE, LE ROY CLARIODUS !
 And that with fik ane [michtie] noyfe and found,
 1320 That to the rufe the chalmer did redound.

Meliades that blyth was this to heire,
 Zit changit nather countinance nor cheir ;
 Bot with ane stedfaist leuke debonarlie
 Scho all beheld the mirrie companie,
 And thankit God devotlie in hir mynde,
 That her rewardit hade on fike ane kynd ;
 And [that it] pleasit had his gratiouis will,
 The flour of knightheid to geive hir untill :
 And zit albeit scho hade in mariage
 1330 This nobill Knight of so hie vassalage,
 And understuid and right perfytlie knew
 That unto hir he stedfaist was and trew ;
 Zit Cupid hes hir strikin with his dairte,
 And newlie woundit hir unto the heart
 Throw new reporte maid of him be thir Knights
 In prefence of so monie gudlie wights.
 What is thair mair to say of this mater ;
 Both Kingis, Queinis, Lordis and Ladies cleire
 Full joyous war thir things for to heir tell
 1340 Of him that beine of knightheid flour and well,
 And most of all Earle Eftur honorabill,
 And fair Countes that was demure and stabill.
 King Philipone them treitit nobillie,
 And gart the Conftabill treit them royallie ;
 And fyne the gudlie Queine Meliades
 Releivit them on fair and gudlie wayis
 Of hir prisoun, and sweitlie did them treite,
 And gave them gyftis honorabill and great.
 Thay tuike thair leave anone full courtefflie,
 1350 Reverencing thir Princis humbillie,
 And most of all Meliades the Queine,
 Dresing hir bewtie and hir vertew scheine.

Syne founē upon thair horſe ascendit thay,
 And to thair fellows tuike the neireſt way,
 Quhilk thame abaid thair, bot [ȝit neir] at hand
 In ane village that callit was Garrand ;
 To quhom they ſhew the grit nobillitie
 Was to them donne, and the grit royltie
 Of all this feaſt ; and of rewairdis grite
 1360 Whilk was thame gevin thair they did repeit ;
 And how Clariodus, of knighthed floure,
 Of twa realmis was famous conquerour ;
 And thair thay did remaine whill haill and found
 War thair fellows of everie grevous wound ;
 Syne hame thay went unto thair awin cuntrie,
 And leivit ay in trewth and chevalrie.
 King Amandur and [alfe] King Palexis,
 And the Lord Conſtabill that worthie was,
 Ascendit on thair horſe and that anone,
 1370 And with all billines can them diſpone
 To meit the King Clariodus in hy.
 The King of Spaine eik in thair company
 Wold have ridin ; bot Philipon the King
 Did him requyer with wordis right bening,
 Whill thair returning to make refiſcence,
 The feift to honour with his digne preſence.
 And as thay went to horſe on this maneir,
 Thay met the Kingis varlot Bonvaleir,
 Whom to the Conſtabill ſaid, My frind, perdie
 1380 ȝe have this thing conſeillit weill fra me,
 To ſchaw to me quhair that ȝour Maifteſt went.
 My Lord, ſaid he, it war not pertinent
 To me to ſchaw, bot quhat he chargis me,
 Quhilk to conſider diſcreit anewch ar ȝe.

Thairwith he lewch, and maid [full] grit gaming.
 Thir Lords to meit the King ar gone in samming ;
 And soune thay saw him ryde a quyet way
 Unto the postrum *ȝet* without delay.

Then the Lord Constabill unto him raid,

1390 And on this maner lawghand to him said,
 I am of ȝow diffavit out of dreid,
 For I belevit ȝe, sa God me speid,
 Had beine devysing sum strange abuilȝement
 Into ȝour chalmer for the tornament,
 And ȝe in uther materis biflie wer,
 As be the Knightis weill it did apeire,
 Whom into Court amongs ws ȝe [did] send ;
 Thay maid ȝour occupation to us kend.
 The Kingis two, quhilk war his coufings neir,

1400 Thay maid him mirrie companie and cheire.
 The Lord Constabill perfavit weill that he
 Upon the arme was hurt at the mellie,
 And speirit at him if he was hurt ought faire ;
 And he said, Nay. With that thay enterit thair
 In at the gardine *ȝet* of the postrum.

To the chalmer of Clariodus thay come.

Thay passit soune and him unarmit then ;
 And syne aне furrit mantill have thay taine,
 And laid it him about right softlie,

1410 And on his bed syne maid him [for] to ly,
 And to refresh him efter his weirines.

King Amandur and [alſe] King Palexis
 Commandit he to pase unto the hall,
 And glaid the feifters at thair power all,
 And gar them play and make withall disport,
 The quhilk to doe mirrillie thay them exhort.

To hall ar went thir Princes honorabill,
 And with him left no wight bot the Constabill,
 And chalmerlandis with him two or thrie.

1420 And quhen King Philipon can behold and sie
 Thir Princes two againe returnit thus,
 He wist that cum was King Clariodus ;
 At them he speirit the maner and the gyse
 Of all the mellie and the interprufe,
 And gif that he was hurt he did require :
 And thay to him declairit the maneire ;
 That he was hurt thay wold not plainlie tell,
 For faik of hir that was of bewtie well,
 In eace thairof scho fould take displifance,

1430 Quhairfor thay maid ane mirrie countinace.
 Unto the King thay told all privilie,
 That he was hurt, botȝit not hevilie ;
 Of quhilk Meliades tuik persaving,
 And was affrayit into mikill thing ;
 Scho fwounit neir for inwart paine and wo.
 Dame Romaryn, that hir persavit so,
 Unto hir come, and fate doune on hir knie,
 And quhat hir aillit softlie speirit sche.
 Scho said, I dreid my Lord Clariodus

1440 Be hurt, quhairof my heart is dolorus ;
 ȝe fall unto him go but tarrying,
 And in ane taikine beir to him this ring,
 And cum againe and me the maner tell.
 Romaryn then no longer scho did dwell,
 Scho went to the chalmer of Clariodus,
 And on hir kneis softlie said scho thus,
 My Ladie, Sir, hes me unto ȝow fend,
 And unto ȝow dois heartlie hir commend.

For fair seho dreidis that *ȝe* hurt [may] be ;
 1150 Quhairfor so full of hevines is sehe,
 That seho uneis may keipe hir countinunce,
 So woundit is hir heart with disperance ;
 And this seho hes *ȝow* sent in tokening,
 Thairwith anone presenting him the ring.
 Romaryn in armis he did imbrace,
 And to hir faid with glaidsum cheir and face,
ȝe fall my Ladie thanke richt heartfullie,
 And fay unto hir verallie that I
 Do aill nothing bot that seho may amend,
 1160 The quhilk alfweith fall unto hir be kend.
 On this ilk night seho falbe medicyne
 Unto my wounde, for seho is leich full fyne ;
 And in ane tokine gif hir this roobie bright,
 And fay, seho weill confortit hes hir Knight.
 Romaryn lewch quhen seho hard him fay so,
 And undertuike for to remeid the wo
 Of hir Ladie, Meliades the Queine,
 That did of painis the hevines susteine.
 Scho tuike hir leave, and to hir Ladie went,
 1170 And unto hir the tokin hes present,
 And faid as he hir bad, but variance,
 In mikill thing qnhilk lowfit hir penance ;
 And hir rewardit with the roobie cleire,
 That hir sik tydings broght in this maneir.
 The Constabill, [richt] wyfe and componabill,
 Raillit with mirrie wordis amiabill,
 And faid unto the King Clariodus ;
 This day I saw ane Ladie dolorous,
 Quhois culour changit sumthing for *ȝour* faike,
 1180 Get np, and be alse stong as onie aike ;

Be all in joy, and thinke not of no paine ;
 Ane fight of ȝ ow might make ane Ladie faine.
 Then lewgh the King, and faid, My brother faire,
 Ladies in heart beine pitious ever maire.
 With that King Philippon, that was worthie,
 And eike the King of Spaine, com to vifie
 Him in his chalmer with ane freindlie cheire.
 The King of Galice on the same maneir
 Com him to vifie, and Earl Eftur eike,
 1490 Him to comfort with thair wordis [fo] meike.
 Ane chirurgiane, that ware was and expert,
 Him tuike in hand to heill of everie finart
 In fyvetine dayis, that he might ryde and gang.
 He was ane grit maister chirurgiane.
 Thus raillit he with King Clariodus,
 Sir, unto ȝ ow it falbe nothing noyous,
 Gif on the night ȝ e juſt alſe weill as day.
 He fmyllit then, and faid, Maifler, perſay
 The trewth ȝ e tell ; bot I have esperance
 1500 Of my pairtie, to have ane foverance
 Mair in the night nor in the day had I :
 For I am ȝ oldin ellis right verallie
 Alreadie to my nichts pairtie traift perdie ;
 Whairfor I think fecho will more gratiouſe be.
 The cumpanie then lewgh, and maid gud ſport,
 And to the hall they went agane at ſhort,
 All bot the Conſtabill and two chalmerlanis,
 Quhilk fill abaid with the chirurgianis,
 Whill viſit all and tentit was his wound,
 1510 And bundit up with fawis that war found.
 Of purpur velvete he put on ane goune,
 With mertrix furrit curious of faſſioun.

He gave ane uther of the famyn forte
 To the Lord Conftabill, doing him exhorte
 Thairin him for to cleith ; and thay anone
 Both in ane fuit into the hall is gone.
 He put the goun on him at his reueit ;
 Syne hand in hand thir two went to the feift,
 Quhilk lovit uther ay full tenderlie.

1520 Of Knightis followit them grit companie.
 Unto the hall thay went without delay,
 Whair all devyfit was this mirrie play.
 Thay halfit have the mightie Princes hie,
 And thay refavit war full joyouflie.
 Meliades raife off hir mightie feate,
 Upliftit freschlie with two Earlis great.
 And this [fair] Prince full humbillie did inclyne,
 And hir he did imbrace in armis syne,
 And kiffit hir and fet hir in hir chyre ;

1530 Then minftrells playit with ane mirrie fayre,
 And thair the dance thay have begune againe.
 Clariodus his Sifter tuik in hande,
 The Conftabill the Queine of Galeice toke ;
 The ȝoung Knightis for joy thair heartis quoke,
 And cheifit Ladies to go into the dance.
 Thus thay disportit with mirth and grit plifance ;
 Full royllie the feaft of joy began ;
 Meliades fecho dansit not as than.
 What fould I tell ȝow of thair grit delyte,

1540 Quhilk to rehearfe almaist war infinit.
 When redie was the supper, then anone
 This lustie forte ar to thair chalmeris gone,
 And changit thair arayis pleafantlie,
 And them abuilȝeit new and lustillie

In licht clethins, all ordanit for the dance,
 That for to lie it was ane grit pleafance.
 Of thair robis royll dispuiȝet them the Kings,
 And on them put hes ȝuther licht clethins.
 Then Ladies war arrayit full richlie.

1550 They enterit all togidder right seamelie
 Into the chalmer of Meliades ;
 And scho, the flour of bewtie most to prais,
 Was cled in kirtill of claith of gold most deire,
 And of the famyn hir mantill schynit cleir.
 The croun of gold scho changit on hir heid,
 Whilk caft ane light of flonis blew and reid.
 Hir madinis all war in the famyn gyse,
 In glorious mantillis gudlie to pryse,
 Save that thay wore of claith of filver scheine.

1560 When Lordis and Ladies thus arayit beine,
 And everie wight, that pleasour was to se,
 The Maiesteris of houfhald, grite of dignitie,
 Unto King Philipon thay com and faid,
 The fupper readie was and on him baid.
 Than he commandit the Frenſche Conſtabill,
 And the wyſe Count of Eſtur honorabill,
 Unto the hall to fech the gudlie spous.
 Then followit Knightis gudlie and famous.
 To hall thay broght this ȝoung and luftie Queine,

1570 As the hie deice anone up raisit beine ;
 And scho was fet with honour triumphand,
 With mightie Kingis upon ather hand,
 And luftie Queinis fresch and amiabill.
 And scho of bewtie flour incomparabill
 Surmunit all the Ladies in the hall,
 As rubie hes renoun imperiall

Of everie stome ; as right as Phebus bricht
 Beine Lord and Prince of all etheriall light,
 Blinding the starrie hevine with his bewtie,
 1580 Richt so hir bewtie, angel lyke to fe,
 And blyth aspectis glaidis all the tabill,
 As parradyce of joy inestimabill.
 The King Clariodus and his companie
 Unto thair chalmer paslit joyoullie,
 And sowpit thair with royll feift and cheir.
 The sound of trumpits mirrie was to heir,
 The courfis come of number inestimabill,
 With instrumentis glaid and delectabill ;
 The wynis ran, that wight war of meafouris,
 1590 From horribill monsturis and fearfull of figouris ;
 And other liquoris mightie and pretious
 Of dyverse wynis mightie and mervellous
 Ran out of virginis papis quhyte as snow :
 All kynd of fleuris in the hall thay flow :
 By incantatioun of grit practitioneris,
 By astrologis and art magicianis,
 Grite fortolegis with thair enchantments
 Of thair artis gave fik experiments,
 That thay appeirit lyvelie and visibill :
 1600 Strong furious lyonis and dragonis horribill,
 Gaiping as thay the peipill wald devoure :
 Thair was hunting of all griteft plefoure,
 The hardie hundis of full grit quantitie
 Chasing the heartis with thair heidis hie :
 Richt pleasant war the courfis of birds above,
 Etheriall foulis in air might mak na rove
 For lustie falkonis that was gentill of kynd :
 All joy was, that man might have in mynd

Everilk plefour that might revert in spreit :
 1610 Fresch nightingells thair song with notis sweit,
 With blythfull birdis in the blomit spray,
 Befor dame Natur in hir fresch array.
 I can not tell gow in ane houris space
 The grite excelling pleasoure in that place,
 Nor of the joyous feisling infinit,
 Nor of the instruments of grit delyte,
 With dulce musicianis of princis chappellis feir,
 Quhilk fong with curious craft and [wondir] cleire.
 It war ouer long heir for to declaire
 1620 The intermeis that war playit thair
 Amongs the courfis most delitious,
 Quhilk war of proces superstitions.
 The heralds and minstrellis that thair wes,
 Thay all full loudlie did thair cry Lairges
 Of the most royll Prince Clariodus,
 That gave them gyfts mightie and pretious.
 The supper long induirit on this wayis ;
 [Clariodus then joyoullie upraife,]
 And Maisters of houfhold gart rafe the tabill hie.
 1630 The grace was said with grit solemnitie,
 About and ouer the Palice circuleir.
 The noyse of ministrells mirrie was to heir,
 And everie wight [grit] joy and mirthis hade.
 Anon began the dance but more abaid,
 Increllis ay of mirthis more and more,
 With gritter preis of peiple nor before.
 Long war the proces [all] now for to tell
 Of thair disporte and joy that did excell,
 Quhilk till midnight [I wote] induirit still.
 1640 The Maisteris of houfhold then fchew them till,

That it was lait and tyme to go to rest ;
 Then everic wight thair unto bedis dreft.
 The Kingis of Ingland and [eik] of Spaine
 Hes tane this rose of bewtie soverane,
 Meliades, and to hir chalmer gois.
 Clariodus, of knightheid flour and rose,
 Unto his chalmer convoyit beine with Kings ;
 Syne tuike thair leave with humbill inclynings.
 In chalmer thair with him abaid no mo,
 1650 Bot the Lord Constabill that he lovit so,
 That he could not be but his companie.
 Four Knightis beine his chalmerleins worthie,
 Ane was Sir Broun de Lamour [full] wight,
 Ane uther Gilȝeam de la Forreſt height,
 Sir Richard de la Forreſt was in feir,
 The ferd was Sir Penant de la Careire,
 Quhilk four to him fo tender was trewlie,
 That he to them gave treft of his bodie.
 And quhen anon with them he was uncled,
 1660 In furrit mantill he set hes on his bed,
 And him befyd he set the Constabill,
 And with him fell in speiking delectabill,
 Whill that Meliades in bed was gone,
 Whair Ladeis as than was with hir none
 Save hir awin Mother, and the Queinis two
 Of Spaine and Galice; thir wald not fra hir go,
 Whill fcho in bed was brocht, and then anone
 Thay tuike thair leave, and to thair bedis gone.
 Then Romaryn, bening and gratious,
 1670 To chalmer went to King Clariodus,
 And ȝichew to him that the Queine was in bed,
 And he anone to [hir] chalmer him sped,

And the Constabill into his companie,
 Quhilk then at his bed [side] richt privalie
 Tuik leave and bad guid nicht on humbill wayis.

Clariodus to fair Meliades

Enterit in bed quhom Venus did convoy,
 Not in his bed bot in his hevin of joy.

What is thair mair, bot that the floure of armis

1680 Ane rose of bewtie lapit in his armis ;

And so thir two thay enterit in thair blife,
 Whilk with thair meritis weill deservit is ;
 And thay, that lovit uther above all things,
 Paffit that night with joy and thair lykings,
 Quhilk joy doubtles full deir was coft befor,
 Whairfor thair joy ay multipliet the more.

I will not tak in hand for to indyte
 Thair joyis all, for them I can not wryte ;
 For in fik thing I am not prakticate,

1690 Quhilk never my Ladie had in fik ane flate.

Termis I want fik materis to prefer,
 Quhairfor \mathfrak{z} e loveris to \mathfrak{z} ow I it refer,
 That taifit hes of the ilk famyne tune,
 And on fik wayis \mathfrak{z} our Ladies now hes wone ;
 For to consider thair joy is ouer meafoure,
 Of love they have now fund the theafoure,
 Whilk long thay have with pane and pennance foght.
 I know the paine, the pleafoure know I nocht ;
 The wo I felt, thoght I the blis not bruike.

1700 O \mathfrak{z} e my Ladies that luikis on this Buike,

To \mathfrak{z} ow I me compleine on humbill wayis,
 That shle nocht bot dildaine for my service.
 Wald God gif [that] sum paift of \mathfrak{z} our pitie
 War mixit with my Ladies [rare] bewtie ;

For war scho mercifull as scho is faire,
 In all this world scho had non [to] compaire ;
 In everie vertew naine nicht hir amend.

My mater now no longer to transcend,
 Thir loveris two full litill felt of sorrow,

1710 Whill bright Phebus them helfit on the morrow,
 In at the windo and on the courtines schone,
 And everilk wight adreslit up to gone,
 With Kingis, Princes, and Ladies of honoure,
 And everie Ladie hir dreslit in hir boure,
 And did thair bodies luffillie array,
 Lyk to the Mayis blosome on the spray.

Clariodus, as on the day before,
 In clothing that was pretious and decore,
 Is vestit, and quhen tyme was opportune,

1720 For the Lord Constabill he fent full soune ;
 Syne to King Philipon [anone] he went,
 Whair all the Kingis togidder war prefent.
 The Queine Meliades did frefchlie hir attyre
 In cloath of gold bright twinkling as [the] fyre,
 In kirtill quhilk was glorious to sie,
 Of purpure velvet ane goun on had sche.
 Ane luftrie huid scho had upon hir heid,
 With pearlis quhyte and rubies luftrie reid
 Sternit ouer all, quhilk Earle Eftur hir fend

1730 Into the morrow with ane recommend.
 Scho thus arrayit I let in chalmer dwell,
 And quhat betye in Court now I will tell.

The King Clariodus, on fair maneir,
 With the Lord Constabill, his companioun deire,
 Is to the King of Spaignes chalmer gone,
 And unto him thir wordis said anone,

My fair Brother, [now] harkin unto me,
 þe have ane Sister mariet for to be,
 Whilk is right fair, benigne, and gratiouſ ;

1740 And I ane Couſing have and Prince famous,
 Whilk is ane valiant Knight, as weill þe know ;
 War it þour will, I wald that it war fo,
 That our alyance might togider go
 [By mariage of thir richt nobill two.]
 The King answeirit and faid, My Brother faire,
 I will as þe will, fehortlie to declaire,
 We think that alway it war convenient.
 He thankit him with wordis reverent ;
 And fyne he paſt unto King Philipon,

1750 And ſchew to him all haill how it was gone ;
 And he was glaid. Thair is no more to tell.
 Arayit beine this luftie damofell
 On gudlie wayis, alſe freſch as foulde a bryde.
 King Amandur, upon the uther fyde,
 Abuilȝeit him in freſch and regall weid,
 As he that was ane Prince of nobilheid ;
 And King Palexis on the fame maneire,
 Whilk handfaſt was with Ladie Cader cleir ;
 All for the mariagis drefſlit them anone,

1760 And thay all four ar to the chappell gone.
 Within the nightie Palice of renoune
 Up gois the trumpit and the clarion.
 Convoyit thay war with nobill compagnie
 Of Kingis, Princes, and Lordis royallie,
 And mightie Queinis upon ather fyde.
 I bid not on the proces to abyde ;
 Thay mariet war with full grit dignitie,
 And halie conſecrat efter thair degrie,

The mes was fong with note full curious,
 1770 With organ found and thimphand melodious.
 After the mes was donne upon this wayis,
 And finallie compleitit the service,
 The young Quenis war led from [the] chappell
 With Kingis that in honour did excell ;
 Then to thair chalmeris thay went them to recray,
 And alſe to cleith them in ane new aray ;
 And fyne discendit into the triumph hall
 In the grite close that fluide imperiall,
 On lenth and breid, [on] height and [on] lairgnes,
 1780 Of riche apparralling and luttines.
 The tabill up raisit richlie was anone.
 The two young Queines to the hie deice ar gone
 With grite estait and regall dignitie ;
 On ather fyde fat Kingis fresch to sie,
 And Quenis alſe [full] lustie to behold,
 In rich apparrall and regale cloath of gold,
 Whois radious rich apparrall brightlie schone
 With emerand and pearle but comparifon
 In corronalds, bright jespe, and diademes.
 1790 Bot if ane wight of death war in extremes,
 It foould him comfort and rejoſe to sie
 Thair excellent and imperiall blyth bewtie.
 When everie King and Prince of nobilnes,
 And everie Princes, Ladie, and Duches
 Beine fet at tabill after thair degrie,
 The trumpits foundit with ane noyſe full hie,
 Whill that the royll Palice did refoun.
 Anon the courfis come with lik fusoun,
 That I wald irk for to report them heire,
 1800 And ge foould think it tedious for to heire ;

Or if I told gow all the circumstance
 Of them in Ingland, Ireland, and of France,
 Galice, Garnat, and [eik] of Caftalȝie,
 Of Spainȝe land, and of Eftur cuntrie,
 How thay war marchellit, or quha maid them cheir,
 Or of the diverse intermisfe feire,
 Or of the dulce and hevinlie minstrallie,
 Or of thair musike and diverse melodie,
 Or of thair diverse playing instruments,
 1810 Or of thair plifant and trim abuilgements,
 Or of thair mirrie cheir maid at the tabill,
 To tell or to report it war ineftimabill ;
 The fweit luikis and amorus beholding
 Betwix the Knightis and the Ladies ȝing,
 Or of the heralds in thair coat armouris
 Of syndrie Princes of grite honouris ;
 Upon fik thing war long for to abyde,
 Whairfor as now I will let it ower flyde.
 King Amandur and King Palexis
 1820 Rewardit heralds with gold and grit riches ;
 They cryit Larges all the hall about.
 And quhan all dynit had this nobill rout,
 Buirdis on loft beine raifit by and by,
 And graces faid be Bifchopis devotlie ;
 And all the Lordis that in chalmeris dynit,
 Whois grite eftait can not be [heir] defynit,
 Unto the court of nobilnes difcendit,
 Quhilk unto nothing bot to honour tendit,
 Larges, jentrice, and [eik] nobilitie,
 1830 Trewth, manheid, justice, and liberalitie ;
 Away was falfit, away was wretchitnes,
 Away was nigardie and all fkarfchnes.

None covitice let them of thair disport,
 Thair heartis gevin to all glaidnes at schort ;
 Nor naine invy at utheris dignitie
 Might them depaert from thair cheritie ;
 More grace amongs them wald aboundand be.
 [Full oft has beine sik royall companie ;]
 Bot not alway exampillis, for to wryte,
 1840 For so infatiabill beine thair apetite,
 That all the world nicht flokin not thair thirst,
 Whill daith of clay ingrafe them in ane kist.

Into this hall triumph and palestriall,
 Up gois the joyous found instrumentall ;
 With dulce, melodious hermonie and fweit,
 Raising the breift with curage, and the spreit
 Of them that lustie beine and amorus.
 Two Earlis, that beine worthie and famous,
 Thir two ȝoung Queinis leidis to the dance,
 1850 Whom matrimonie hes donne so advance.

The Constabill leidis Meliades.
 Thir Kingis two full fresch at all devyse,
 King Amandur and King Palexis,
 Hes taine two Queinis of grit lustines,
 And dansit on [maist] fair and gudlie wayis
 Danfis that all men [ever] could devyse ;
 Knightis and Ladies full gudlie for to feine,
 And virginis in thair dreslit hairis scheine,
 The dance continuing with bening countinunce.
 1860 Thus they disportit them with all plefance,
 Whill that the supper was redie at all ;
 Then unto chalmer went this court royall,
 And freschlie thair thay changit thair rayments,
 And pat on them for playis abuilȝements.

And Ladies hes thair gounis laid asyde,
 And taine on mantillis that war large and wyde
 Of cloath of gold, purpure, and cramoſie.

The fair Meliades debonarlie
 Hes hir dispulȝeit of hir goune velvate,

1870 And put on hir ane roſey of dew bewate,
 Ane goune of gudlie hewit cramoſie;
 Upon hir heid ane croune of gold mightie,
 Whairin was ſtonis pretious and decore,
 That worth ane Kingis ranſoune war and more,
 With goldin chainȝe about hir halfe fo quhyte,
 Whom to behold ane hevine was of delyte :
 Her proper perſoun glorious was and gay.

When everie Ladie hade changit hir array,
 To the triumph hall ascendit thay anone.

1880 Kingis, Princes, and Ladies everie one,
 War fet at ſupper efter thair degrie.
 The filver trumpits maid a noyfe full hie,
 The pleafant courſis come abundantly ;
 And buirdis beine [all] fervit by and by,
 The minſtrellis fang with curioſtie,
 Sweit as the marmaid in the orient fea.
 Full long thay fat and maid right mirrie cheir,
 And ſoune anone thay raife from the ſuppeir,
 And newlie gois to thair abaitments

1890 With joyous found of pleafant instruments.
 Then all the nobillef King Clariodus
 For Emayne fent ane Ladie gratiouſis,
 Of the chalmer of the Duches Bellavoy,
 Quhilk was of Spaine ane verie flour of joy,
 And hir delyverit to the Lord Conſtabill,
 To go in dance; and he right honorabill

Thankit him lowlie and tuik her be the hand.
 Thir two ȝoung Queinis, lustie and pleafand,
 Led with two Kingis dansit thair ane beafe.

1900 Meliades be worthie Palexis
 Was led in dance as goddes Apolleine,
 Quhilk to behold was lyke ane thing devine.
 Thus thay disportit quhill it was neir midnight,
 Syne unto beddes thay passit everie wight.
 King Philipone and King Clariodus,
 With countinane mirrie and joyous,
 Convoyit unto chalmer lustillie
 Thir young spousis ; and syne on wayis gudlie
 Thair leavis tuike and syne to chalmeris went.

1910 Thir two fresch Kingis, fresch in thair intent
 War of thir Ladies fair and weil beseine.
 Syne everie King taine hes his awin Queine,
 And gone to bed with thame with all pleafance :
 Bot now it war ower long ane circumstance,
 To tell thair grite pleafance and all thair joy ;
 Glaider war never Sir Troylus of Troy,
 When he had Creffed in his arms windin,
 Nor war thir Kingis quhen thay to beds cumin,
 [To] thair lustie Queinis quhom thay loved long.

1920 Bot now the tyme me lift not to prolong,
 For to declair ȝow all thair mirrines,
 Or into lovis the nights bissines.
 In joy and blife in armis still thay lay
 With glaidsum night, quhilk cumin was the day.
 Apollo restles and unfatigabill,
 Cleir in the eift devoid of habite fabill,
 Upon his course was cumin in the hevin,
 Twentie degries large and thairto fevin,

Quhen everie King and Prince of nobilnes,
 1930 And everilk Queine, Ladie, and Duches,
 Adreslit them full gudlie in thair weid.
 Meliades the flour of womanheid
 Was cled in goune of velvete lustillie,
 Furrit with greice right fair and [full] feamlie ;
 And of the famyne suite scho gave also
 Unto the new maid Quenis gounis two,
 And to the Queinis of Galice and Spainge
 Two gounis of the famyne fort gave sche ;
 And scho that wes of bewtie crope and rute,
 1940 Did them besik to go into ane suite
 With hir that day ; and thay with cheire bening
 Hir thankit, and did grant to hir this thing.
 To mes thay went, and syne disjunit all ;
 Syne to the skaffalds in lustie apparrall
 Went everie Prince and Princes amiabill,
 And everie Lord and Ladie delectabill.
 King Philipone with monie ane auncient Knight
 War set on skaffold to confave at right
 What Lord or Knight did best in the affay.
 1950 The Knightis com all lustie in array
 In cloathes of gold full fair [and] schyning bright.
 Unto the rinke com monie feamlie Knight
 So weill at poynt that wounder was to fie.
 Of trumpits found full noyis rais on hie.
 The French Constabill com firſt in the affay,
 On gudlie wayis in right knightlie aray,
 Servit be the nobill King Clariodus,
 Whois wound to him was git sumthing noyous,
 And for that caufe he juslit not as than.
 1960 Thair might be feine monie ane feamlie man.

The Constabill was in the range with him,
 Whilk than was [the] maist liklie for to wine.
 Of Bellavoy the Duike was [then] without,
 [And] servit be King Amandur full stonte,
 Weill accompanied with knightlie companie,
 For he all tyme was nobill and worthie.
 The Duike of Brisland enterit in the feild,
 In knightlie fassoun both with speire and scheild,
 In his inarming cleire as ony sonne,
 1970 Quhilk as I traist fall not be lightlie wonne ;
 And he was servit be King Palexis,
 Becaus he of [the] Galice natioun was.
 The fresch Knightis com far to the justing,
 Sir Charles de la Careir as ane lamp schyning,
 The nobill and duchtie Sir Ame de Valeir,
 Ane gratious Knight Sir Gorius de Grampeir,
 With monie uther luflie pleasand Knight.
 Knightis of Ingland schone as angellis bright,
 Sir Broun de Amouris cristalleine of hew,
 1980 And nobill Sir Hewmon de la Mantigue,
 Sir Richard de Maianis of grite renoune ;
 Sir Gilȝeam de la Forreft of Scottis regioun,
 Ane Knight he was of fair conditioun ;
 Thair was Sir Hew de la Bas of that natioun.
 The Knight Lumbard, Sir Ame de la Pleafance,
 Com to the preife with manlie countinance.
 Of Portingall Sir Porus of renoune
 Was thair, the Knight quhilk was the [weird] lyoun.
 It war forsuith ane grit prolixie
 1990 To tell thair namis all in thair degrie ;
 For thair was both within and eik without
 Aucht hundred Knightis that war [stark and] stout,

ȝoung, strong, [and] fresh, and also amorus,
 Antrus, ardent, and [alſe] richt desyrus
 To do thair deidis valiant at thair might,
 In prefens of thair Ladies and thair fight.
 Or onie Knight encounterit with ane lance,
 Thir Lordis heralds heighlie did advance
 In thair coat armuris of gold, ſtiffe and cleire ;
 2000 And with hie voice that all the feild might heire
 Cryit the heralds of the Lord Conſtabill,
 POURE LAMOUR DELE ; [and] with grite joy thairtill
 The Duike of Brislandis heralds cryit hie,
 SANS POYNT FALTRE ; and fo with royltie
 Thair maiferis wordis thay pronuncit loud.
 Syne to the ſcharpe affay of knightlie ſchroud
 Addrefſlit Lordis with thair ſpeiris joynit ;
 The cleirlyke trumpts and clarionis tunit.
 Thus Mars his ſonnis chevalrus and bauld,
 2010 In bright arming and triumph to behauld,
 Leiming of jefpis wounder glorious,
 And provit in armis fo victorious,
 That it war mervell for to be rehearſit ;
 Thair hie valour with pen can not be verfit.
 Thay brayit on utheris lyke lyounis and bairis,
 The air all rumblit with the cracke of ſpeiris,
 The earth about all dynnit and it ſchoke,
 The reike up raiſe [like] as ane ſmodie ſmoke ;
 The trenſcheons of thair ſpeiris up gois on loft,
 2020 Doune gois the Knightis with ane fall unſoft ;
 With ſpeiris ſtrong fo upon breift thay beit,
 The feidis wox all quhyte with fame and fweit ;
 Cheildis lay ſcatterit in the feild full wyde,
 The bright helmis did from thair heidis glyde,

The cleir scheildis beine all in funder brift,
 Knightis beine out of thair sadillis thrist;
 The grit fleidis togidder gois with gronis,
 Whill giltin rufis rattillit all at onis,
 And bukillis brekis and birneis gois to ground,
 2030 Whill with the reard thair breiftis did redound.
 The grite Constabill of France regioun
 That day wan mikill honour and renoune ;
 He did grit worship to the realme of France,
 For monie ane Knight he drave doun with [his] lance ;
 He fairis alſe wode as lyoun in ane rage,
 Whois ardant heart defyrus might not affwage
 The thrist of knightheid, governance, and name ;
 For fecho was thair that maid him to eschame
 Of cowardyce and of flewthfull curage ;
 2040 He did fuithlie full nobill vassallage,
 His knightheid fecho enforcit with hir luike.
 Full weill then provit of Bellavoy the Duike ;
 For he that was right famous of thir deidis
 Stronglie buire doune both Knightis and thair steidis,
 And did full valiantlie and lyke ane Knight.
 Sir Charles de la Carere, bold and wicht,
 Full weill he provit, as myne Author tellis,
 In fame of knightheid and chevalrie excellis.
 Rycht weill him held Sir Richard de Mayanis.
 2050 The Knight Lumbard, Sir Amé de Plifance,
 Sik wounederis wroght, that wounder was to fie,
 Throw his grite force and magnanimitie.
 And eik Sir Porrus de la Portingall
 On him that day [did take] so grite travell,
 And weill atchevit to the letter end.
 The Knights of Ingland wan full grite commend.

And right swa thay of Spaingie and [of] France,
 Thay rewlit [thair] with knightlie governance.
 For to behold it was ane nobill fight

2060 So monie ane valiant and so lustie Knight
 Into ane feild, [and] dought so long contine.
 The pepill had grit pleasance them to feine.
 To ryn at other did thay never fine,
 Whill bright Appollo wastward did declyne,
 And him ischerowdit in his mantill reid,
 And quhill the goldin traces of his heid
 Men might behold straught and lyneall
 Abone the earth, with beames colaterall,
 With ane deaureat supperiall light

2070 Leiming the grund ; and whill he out of fight
 Bening descendit from his hemisphere,
 And Lucine of the hevine had the impyre,
 And lustie Venus schew hir lustie face,
 And let hir goldin traces out of leace,
 Glaiding the hevinlie ringe imperiall,
 And everie blythfull starne celestiall
 As roobie twinklit in the firmament.
 And quhan that nature maid impediment,
 And them denyit had the light of day,

2080 Thay most neids twine. Thair is no more to fay,
 The King hes gevin command out of his seit,
 In trumpit found to blow up the retreit ;
 The quhilk command thay let no tyme onerpas.
 The found gois furth of filver and of brafe,
 With sik ane noyse, whill all the listis rang ;
 Men might of mettall heir ane hevinlie fang,
 When all the trumpits tonit up at onis ;
 Then fra the preis the Knightis them disponis.

Bot or the King wold off the skaffald discend,
 2090 He askit quha the honour and commend
 Deservit for to have of the justing.
 The antient Lordis long war advysing,
 Full grit commend gave to the Knightis all,
 And them right hie did praise univerfall,
 Saying, in thair tyme thay never had feine
 More valiant Knightis under scheildis scheine,
 Nor better provit at justing nor tornay ;
 Bot moft the laud and the triumph they lay
 Upon this Lord the mightie Frenche Conſtabill,
 2100 And on the Duike of Bellavoy honorabill.
 The King discendit from his scaffald doune ;
 Kingis, Princes, and Ladies of renoune,
 Unto the Palice went full royallie,
 With the victorious found of minſtrallie ;
 And everie Knight unto his ludging went.
 Clariodus, the Knight armipotent
 The Conſtabill led to chalmer royallie,
 Quhair he alsweith unarmit was haſtillie,
 And put on him ane goun of velvote thair,
 2110 Furrit with mertrix pretious and fair.
 King Amandur led the Duike of Bellavoy
 To chalmer with all melodie and joy.
 Be this the ſupper was alreadie dicht,
 The ſex freſch Queinis, in attyre [full] bricht,
 Com to the hall arrayit nobillie,
 And at the tabill ſet with royltie,
 With monie ane Ladie, Countes, and Duches,
 And monie grit Maiftres and Barrounes.
 The Kingis in ane chalmer ſouipt all.
 2120 And all the Knightis went unto the hall,

That war all day with travell fatigat ;
 The Lord Constabill grittest of eftait,
 And Duke of Bellavoy ane buird begane ;
 Syne efter thair degrie right everie man
 Was set at tabill, and servit honorabillie.
 Anone the trumpits blew up mirrillie,
 They maid grit feift with joy and melodie.
 Then buirdis beine [all] servit by and by,
 As thay in midis of the supper wer,
 2130 Ancht Heraldis come in coat armour cleir,
 And aught Knightis [full] valiant and worthie,
 And akit at the nobill companie,
 Quhilk of the Knightis fould the honour have
 Of the justing and praisie ouer [all] the leave.
 In hall they had diverse opinioun
 Amongs the Kingis and Princes of renoune
 What Knight fould have the lawd and the honoure,
 Them all thay praisit to be of grite valour ;
 Bot to the Constabill thay gave grit loving,
 2140 And to the Duke of Bellavoy condigning.
 When this was faid, Clariodus the King
 Sent to Meliades the Queine bening,
 And bade hir fend unto thir Lordis two
 Rewairdis fair. The mesflage furth can go,
 And schaw right as [that] ge have hard devyfe.
 And then the lustie Queine Meliades
 Baid Romaryne feche unto hir of gold
 Ane firmaleit and chaine fair to behold ;
 And with fair Emayn of Bellavoy them fend,
 2150 And gart ane uther Ladie with hir wend
 Unto thir Lordis two. And quhen that thay
 Unto thair presence com, thus can thay say

To the Constabill that worthie was and wyfe,
 Our Soverane Ladie Queine Meliades
 Reuyeris gow this chaine for to refave,
 As ge that at the justing ouer the leave
 That war within hes won renoune and praiſe :
 Bot he alway that courtes was and wyfe,
 Laith was the chaine for fik caus to refave ;

2160 Bot nevertheles he moſt neidis it have,
 At the requeift of Princes him about.
 He thankit them and courteſlie did lout,
 And gave [to] them two diamantis faire.
 The Ladies kneillit with cheiris debonair,
 And to the Duike of Bellavoy the firmaleit cleir
 Thay have presentit fyne on this maneir,
 Saying, The luftie Queine gow fent this gift.
 He it refavit withouttin ony ſchift ;
 The Queine he thankit, and gave the Ladies gent

2170 Two royll rubies bright and redolent.
 Thir Lordis two hes taine thir Ladies bricht,
 And to the ball them led, whair everie wight
 Had ſoupit and up ryſin from the tabill,
 And enterit in ane dance full amiabill.
 Thair thankit they the Queine Meliades,
 And fyne begouth the dance in humbill wayis
 With thir ilk forſaid Ladies in thair hand.
 Full glorious wox the feift and triumphand
 Of glaide diſport : bot it did not long left,

2180 The mirrie Knightis mifter had of reſt,
 And went to bed anone and fleipit ſtill,
 Whill bright Phebus ſchynit ouer holt and hill.
 And be [that] it was fullie houris nyne,
 Full gudlie Knightis cleir and crifſtallyne

Enterit againe into the luffie meid
 With scheild and lance enarmit upon steid,
 And justit all the day continuallie ;
 Whairof the hie renoun and victorie,
 As [that] myne Authore tellis for certaine,
 2190 Wes gevin to the mightie Duke of Briland,
 And to the Duke of Bellavoy thir two.
 The feist triumphall glaidlie induirit so
 The tyme compleit of monethes two all out ;
 Grit was the joy amongis that bliffull rout.
 Clariodus, the best and nobillest [King]
 That levit then efter Mars his ring,
 Gart make ane generall Proclamatioun
 In everie province of his regioun,
 That every vailȝeand Knight [thair] under scheild
 2200 Compeir sould on sik ane day and feild,
 And for his Ladies love to rin ane lance,
 And for the luif, and uther circumstance.
 The day is cunit, and eik the Knights alto.
 Grit was the preis that in the field can go ;
 Thair might be feine monie ane luffie Knight
 Of countries strange, inarmit schyning bright
 Againe the face of Titan, leinning cleire
 Of redolent flonis pretious and deire.
 All Kingis, Queinis, and the Ladies fair,
 2210 War set on scaffalds plesand and preclaire,
 Beholding all the maner and the gyfe
 Of everilk Knight and of his interpryse.
 Thair namis dar I not discryve at all ;
 For of this haill world universall
 Thair beine the chose of all [of] hie renoun
 Of Knightis of all syndrie natioun.

The justing was begun with triumph found,
 Whill it redoundit from the cludis doun.
 Knightis of Ingland, Galice, and of Spaine,
 2220 That day did not all thair deidis in vaine,
 For monie ane Knight and horse doun thay buire,
 Nobillie thay provit, and did long endure ;
 So did the strong Knightis, the fith to fay,
 For monie ane fair course was run that day :
 Bot he that beine the patron of all Knights,
 The fone of Mars of bodie and of michts,
 I meine Clariodus enarmit bright,
 This potent Prince, as planeit casting licht,
 Schynit all of stonis and of carbunkellis deire.

2230 As Jupiter fumounting in his spheir,
 Or Lucifer in pairting of the night,
 So all in gleime and glorious as angell bright,
 He enterit in the field and that anone ;
 For then all noy of his wound was gone.
 His mightie speir he faikit in his hand,
 And on his fleid he glydit ouer the land,
 And buire the Knightis from thair horse aloft,
 And on the grund maid them to fall unsoft ;
 Might none refist his fstraikis of fik force,
 2240 Befor his face to grund went man and horse.
 Him to behold it was ane ferlie fight,
 For he was of fik strenth and of [fik] might ;
 Right as the agill in the air at will
 Devoris the terreftriall volateill,
 And dantis the etheriall birdis finall ;
 So the terreftriall fame victoriall
 Ringit in him of knighthie governance.
 Nocht can my pen difcryve, nor ȝit advance

His valiant deidis nor his chevalrie,
 2250 So far as might be reasoun satissie
 Him that in French hes red this historie ;
 To sik ane rethorik nather be laud and glorie,
 As unto him that did this buik compyle
 In French, illumining with his goldin style ;
 And he, that did it out of French tranflait,
 Hes it depaint of langwage full ornate,
 And luftie termis richt poeticall :
 Bot I, the third and secundest of all,
 Can not so meitter as thay put in prose ;
 2260 Full oft I put the nettill for the rose,
 And oft the bindweid for the lillie quhyte.
 The god armipotent might have delyte
 To fe his knightlie fair and governance,
 His hie regall victorious importance.
 His mightie corporis stark and unfatigat
 Maid monie ane Knight to ly on face profrat.
 From sum he straikethe helme, and sum the scheild,
 And sum he laid on groufe upon the feild,
 And sum he ran doun fearfle and eik his horse,
 2270 To leive the place behuifit them on forfe.
 The Conftabill, that on him followit ay,
 Sik wounder had to sie the grit deray
 Amongs the Knightis hurling on the feild,
 He did huife fill long tyme, and him beheld,
 And mervellit on his frength and hie curagis,
 That as ane furious lyon on them ragis.
 King Amandur and King Palexis,
 Wha fillit war of manheid and nobilnes,
 So weill them held, that wounder was to tell,
 2280 Full monie ane Knight befor thair lanfis fell.

The royll houſhould of King Philipon
 So nobillie thair lanſis did dispone,
 That monie aне Knight befor them geid to grund.
 Was never hard in all this eard ſo round
 Of fairer juſting and nobiller tornament ;
 For then under the ſtarrie firmament
 Of knightlie fame and lawd was Britan bauld,
 As ȝit us tellis the Chronicles auld.

So hapinit then aне Knight in feild to be

2290 Of grite vigoure and [eik] ſtrenuitie,
 That he in diverſe landis was victoure,
 Feill Knightis war conqueift be his valoure.
 Of jyant corporis was this grit campioun,
 Ont throw the feild he playit the lyoun,
 With mightie ſpeir as Mars he did furth ryd,
 Defoylȝeand Knightis foullie in his prude.
 To ſie his bright enarming was delyte,
 Correspondent to his corporis perfyte,
 That fair it was to leuike on ſike aне Knight,
 2300 Fulfillit of fik vertew and fik might,
 Quhilk radious was, and redolent of hew,
 Of Leſlay he height Sir Leonard Perdew.
 Melancholike he brunt of pure invy,
 That Sir Clariodus the King worthy
 So far in valiant deidis did excell ;
 Quhairfor alſe wod as ony tiger fell
 He fet on him with mightie lance in hand.
 The nobill King him mightillie gainſtand.
 Thay fruschtit thair ſpeiris freschlie in funder
 2310 So fellowunlie, to ſie that it was wounder.
 And quhen he ſaw he could him not vincus,
 Then he requierit King Clariodus

Him for to draw apairt, and to affay,
 Quhilk of them two vinqueis [the] other may.
 Clariodus him grantit hes this thing.
 And then withoutin ony taryng
 They drew them to ane syd, and hes anone
 From thair squeryeris two mightie speiris tone,
 And raid at uther, schortlie to conclude,

2320 Right as two dragonis that war fearece and wod ;
 Thair speiris brake and sprang into the air,
 The royall Palice reardit with the rair.
 And fyne with all thair courage and [thair] might
 Thay strake at other with thair swordis bright.
 As two wyld boaris irouslie thay faught,
 From both thair helmes the low *ȝeid* as fyrlaught
 Throw dintis fers on [the] hard forgit steill,
 Thay did affay if it was temperit weill,
 Quhilk rang full loud and gave an awfull sound,

2330 Thair brandis cleir wantoun up and doun
 Againes the fonis fervent beamis bright ;
 Unto the pepill terribill was the fight.
 Thir cruell Knightis with thair feirfull cheir
 Ruschit on uther ay in fik maneir,
 Whill helmis [and] habrigis all to brift ;
 Out throw the steill full fast thay [ay did] thrift.
 So sad straikis thay [did] on other fet,
 Whill both thair brandis bloodie was and wate.
 Sir Leonard for ire almost grew wode,

2340 That he fo long in feight againis him stude,
 And him nicht not vinqueis in no maneir.
 In scheith he put his sword of mikill cleir,
 And trowit with his vigour and his force
 To draw the nobill Knight from [off] his horie.

Clariodus persavit him anone,
 His fteid he spurrat and toward him is gone,
 And in his forcie armis wight and strang,
 He did the Knight out of his sadill swang,
 And laid him on his hors nek him before,
 2350 And to the barras magrie him full fore
 Him buire, and set him doun curagious.
 They cryit on height, **VIVE CLARIODUS!**
 The stalwart Knight full foun on fute he wan,
 He said, Thou art ane quike devill and no man ;
 For I have beine in Spangie and Itallie,
 In Denmark, Duchland, and throw all Germanie,
 Zit fand I never thy peir into no land.

To blow the retreat the King gave command ;
 For than Phebus had put his course to end,
 2360 And bright Venus did in the eift ascend.
 I may not tarry all the proces on ;
 Kingis, Lordis, Knightis war warnit anon,
 And schortlie cled into [full] rich array,
 Syne to the hall they went the neireft way ;
 For thair the tabillis war richlie bespred.
 Then Kingis, Quenis, Duchefes them sped
 Unto the deice to thair seats honorabill,
 Whair thay war servit with courfis ineftimabill ;
 For to discus thair is no man on lyve,
 2370 That can the twentie pairt thairof discryve
 The grite triumph and feifing beine and cheir,
 Whair that fa monie Knightis beine in feir.
 Right as the latter course come in the hall,
 Then Heraldis in cote armours royll,
 And twelf Knightis that aigit war and wyfe,
 Quhilk in thair tyme [richt] mikill was to prufe.

Unto the hall they ar all went in feir,
 And cleirlie the opinious did speir
 Of everie Prince and Lord of grit renoun
 2380 Whois was the laude for [the] conclusioun
 Of all the Knights that in the justing wer,
 And who most valiantlie did perseveir,
 And who the helme [had] conqueist and renoune ;
 For it the maner was in that regioun,
 That who at justing or at tornament
 The honour wan, thair was to him present
 Ane mightie helme circulat with gold cleir,
 And circumferat with stonis that war deir.
 They spake of monie [grit] and diverse Knight,
 2390 Of worthie King Palexis that was wight,
 And of his brother Amandur the King,
 And the Lord Conflabill nobill and conding,
 Sir Charles, Sir Porrus, Sir Amé de Plisance ;
 Thay said they beine all worthie to advance.
 Grite worschip spake they of the Duikis twane
 Of the cuntries of Bellavoy and Brisland,
 And of Sir Leonard de la Pardew,
 Whom King Clariodus out of his fadill drew.
 Bot King Clariodus they most commend,
 2400 And finallie they all did condiscend
 To give him all the lawd and honour hie,
 To quhom no uther wight was so worthie ;
 For thair might Knightis be of [full] grit fame,
 Bot nothing all to his imperiall name ;
 For he in grie stude [ay] superlative
 Abone all uther Knightis [fair] in lyve,
 In fame of Knightheid and of fortitude :
 Whairfor the companie did all conclude

The helme of honour to give him onlie,
 2410 That pryst beine the flour of chevalrie.

Be this was said, aucht Virginis fair to sie,
 In tracit hairis of ferlifull bewtie,
 Four of Spainzie, and four of Galice land,
 Com in the hall with countinanc pleifand,
 And broght with them the helme deaureat bright,
 Owerfret with mightie stonis casting light,
 And set it doun before him on the tabill,
 Saying to him with wordis amiabill,
 Sir, be advyse and counfall generall,

2420 Of Kingis, Princes, Lordis, ane and all,
 This aureat helme is maid for to be gouris,
 For the grite worchipe and the hie honouris
 That ge have won with mightie speir and scheild
 This day at tornay, be justing in the feild.
 Clariodus thankit the Virginis ging,
 And also he remerfit everie King,
 Saying, thairto he was not dingne nor abill,
 And offerit it unto the Lord Constabill,
 Quhilk it refusit, and fo did all the leave ;

2430 For he himselfe most neidis it refave.
 Constrainit be the nobill Princes all.
 Then he upon ane Arniger did call,
 And gart ane Maister of houphold come him till,
 Quhilk callit was Sir Henrie Gordonill,
 To quhom he rounit and ordanit sefreitlie,
 To have the Heraldis with him quyetlie
 To his wairdrope, and thair reward them all,
 And give them gouns of cloath of gold royll ;
 And bad him give of silver and of gold
 2440 To everie ane ane thoufand merks doun told ;

And to the Knights he gave twelf coursers fair,
 [Into this world none might with thame compair.]
 Richt as he bad this Lord hes donne anone.
 Syne he commandit two squeryeris for to gone
 To chalmer with his helme ; and ordanit eik,
 That thay fould take with them thir Virginis meik,
 And tak aught goldin chaingis avenant,
 And put to everie chaine ane diamant,
 And [fyne] put [thame] about thair throttis qulyte ;
 2450 The qubilk was donne, schortlie [for] to indyte.
 Thir Knightis and the Heralds all in feir
 Enterit againe unto thair suppeir,
 [All] remersing the King Clariodus,
 In prefence of the companie famous.
 The Heralds cryit Larges upon hie
 Of the grit gentrice and liberalitie
 Of the most hie, excellent [and] mightie
 Clariodus, the flour of chevalrie.
 Thus soupit thay with joy and mirrines ;
 2460 And fyne [thay] from the tabill can them dres,
 And enterit in the dance full lustillie
 With hevinlie found of hevinlie minstrallie.
 Clariodus hes causit the strange Knights
 With Ladies dance ; and fo the lustlie wichteis
 Weill long disportit them on this maneir ;
 Syne spyce and wyne was broght with mirrie cheir,
 Depairting fyne the companie with joy.
 Clariodus full glaidlie did convoy
 The strange Knightis unto the Paliceȝet,
 2470 And gart be given to them giftis grit,
 Robis of silk gudlie [and fair] to fie,
 With gold and silver in grit quantitie.

Thay tuike thair leave and to thair lugings went.
 At morrow as bright Phebus did up blent,
 Thay raid into thair cuntries everie one,
 And schew unto thair Princes thair anone
 Of all the feift the faslioun and the cheire,
 Of all the justing, also the maneir,
 And of the fredome of King Clariodus,
 2480 And of his knightlie deidis [and] famous.

The nobill Kings of Spaignie and Galice
 Bad ordane thair estaits in gudlie wayis,
 To pas at morrow hamwart but delay.
 The night ower went, and cuming was the day,
 The Kings did them addres in thair array,
 And maid them redie with all heft thay may,
 And thair two Queinis ; and fyne went in feir
 And tuike thair leive on gudlie fair maneir
 At Philipon [the King] and at his Queine,
 2490 And fyne [anon] at his Court all bedeine.

In the meine quhyll Sir Amé de Plesance,
 The Knight Lumbard but longer tariance,
 Sir Fortun de Amouris, and nobill Sir Porrus,
 They schoupe to ryd ; to quhom Clariodus
 Gave grite thefawre [of] riches and monie,
 And cloathes of gold most pleasant for to sie,
 And gart convoy them with fair companie
 Of Knights that beine [richt] nobill and worthie.
 Thaireftir founē thir Kingis excellent,
 2500 And eike thair Queinis, in maner reverent
 Thair leave hes taine at all the Court royall,
 At everie Lord, Ladie and dainofell,
 Bot at Clariodus and the Lord Constabill,
 Whilk them convoyit with Court most honorabill

Unto thair schipis quhilk did on them abyde,
 Whair mony royll gyfts on everie syde
 Was gevin and taine with monie rich jewell,
 With cloathes of gold, that was [ane grit] mervell
 To be rehearstis to gow in this place.

2510 Then to the fand discendit thay in peace,
 Reddie to enter all into thair schipis,
 Lordis in armis each other thair beclipsis.
 The King Clariodus, that was worthie,
 Imbracit thir two Kingis tenderlie,
 And eik the Queinis two he kifst ifeire,
 And thay in barges enterit afe the peir.
 And last of all his leave tuik pitiouslie
 At his Father the Earle full tenderlie,
 He him imbracit and eik his Mother syne,
 2520 And reverentlie to them he did inclyne.
 God waite thair was ane sorrowfull depairting,
 They weipit all with teiris distelling.
 And Mandonat with sorrowfull effeir
 Hir bright visage bedewit all with teir,
 Thus with hir onlie Brother to depaert.
 The fword of dollour did glyd throw hir heart.
 For to behold the fight was dollorus,
 And the depairting fore and pitious,
 Betwix the onlie Sister and the Brother,
 2530 And more betwix the one Sone and the Mother.
 I will not longer tell gow of thair sorrow,
 Anone they twynit with Saint John to borrow.
 And be the fameine houre the nobill King
 His leave hes taine with heartlie imbracing
 At the two Kings, and right so at Palexis,
 Syne at the Earle Eftur of worthines,

And at the Queinis, and at the fair Countes,
 On ather syde kneilling with humbillnes.
 The guid Lord Constabill tuike leave also
 2540 At Kingis, Queinis, Ladies ; and syne did go
 To schipis sweith quhair failis went on heicht.
 They go to seawart as [ane] foule on flicht.
 Sa weill of winde servit them Eolus,
 And so the flude temperit Neptunus,
 That to the land approachit thay belyve,
 And into helthsum portis did arryve ;
 And everilk Prince and Lord in thair degrie
 Ar paflit hame in gud prosperitie,
 Whair thay refavit war with [all] blythnes,
 2550 And leiveit in joy and in mirrines ;
 And oftymes heartlie greating fent betwne
 To King Clariodus and to his Queine.
 The King Clariodus that nobill was,
 King Amandour and [eik] King Palexis,
 The Constabill, and all thair companie,
 Returnit hamewart ar full mirrillie,
 Whair that thay fand the King with his Court all
 Disporting them with triumph royall ;
 With joy and pleasance pat thay afe the night.
 2560 And on the morn as Phebus gave the light,
 The Constabill anone did him addrefse
 Unto his schipis with all bissines,
 And tuike his leave at Philipon the King,
 And at the Queine and at hir Ladies ging,
 And at the [lustie] fresch Meliades ;
 And this he did upon most humbill wayis,
 Whair monie [ane] rich gift and jewell great
 Was gevin and taine, quhilk I will not repeit :

Bot treſt ȝe weill that wo was everie wicht
 2570 For the depairting of the gentill Knight.
 On horſe he hes ascendir fuddanlie,
 And furth he raid with all his companie.
 Clariodus he fand without the port
 Abyding him with ane [richt] lustie forte
 Of Kingis, Lordis, and Knights of honour ;
 Both King Palexis and King Amandur
 War in the Court with all thair companie ;
 And furth anone thay raid full mirrallie,
 Whill [that] thay com to thefea strandis cleir,
 2580 Whair that the ſchipis all [full] redie wer.
 The King Clariodus and the Lord Conſtabill
 With friendlie cheir and wordis amiabill
 Imbracit uther they have tenderlie,
 And thay that lovit uther heartfullie
 Uneis might hold them from weiping then for wo
 When that thay wift they wald fra uther go,
 Promitting other with humanitie
 For evermore treuth and fidelitie ;
 Syne tuik thair leave at uther pitiouſlie.
 2590 The nobill King, that could weill courteſie,
 Tuike leave [then] at Sir Charles de la Careir,
 And at the worthie Sir Amé de Valeir,
 And [ſyne] at the French Knightis everie one.
 Full monie ane jewell of gold and pretious ſtone
 Amongs them gevin hes the nobill King.
 And fyne his Couſings two, thir Princes ȝeing,
 Thair leave has taine at the Lord Conſtabill,
 Imbracing uther with wordis confortabill ;
 And efter that he went into his barge,
 2600 Quhilk pullit up anone hir faillis large,

And ower the fluid [then] freschlie did he fair,
 Alſe ſwift as dois the Eagill in the air ;
 At Calice thay arryvit eſilie,
 And thair alſweith [thay] tuike thair harborie.
 And on the morne as cleirit up the day,
 They all prepairit and put them on the way,
 And biffellie they ſped them day and night,
 Whill [that] of Parice walls thay gat ane fight ;
 And ſo withoutin reſt this Court furth raid
 2610 Straight to the Palice quhair the King abaid,
 And fyne diſcendit from thair horſe anone ;
 And the Lord Conſtabill to the King is gone,
 And helſit him on knies full reverentlie,
 And he reſavit him full joyouſlie.
 This Lord apart [fyne] went with him but mo,
 And ſchew at length or he wald farther go
 The pleaſant cheir of the triumphall feift,
 And all the intermeiſis moſt and leift,
 With all the grite diſport and abaitments,
 2620 And of the royll juſting and turnaments,
 And of the commendatiouns ane and all
 Whilke war unto him fend in ſpeciall.
 Glaid was the King his wordis for to heir,
 And bad that he ſould on the faine maneir
 Go ſchaw the Queine the tydings delectabill.
 At his command [ſoun] went the Lord Conſtabill,
 And helſit hes the Queine and hir Ladies.
 ſcho him reſavit in ane joyfull wayis.
 He told hir all the maner mair and les,
 2630 How treitit him Clariodus of nobilnes,
 With all the heartlie commendatiouns
 Of Kings and Princes of full great renouns ;

Of quhilk scho was [richt] joyous for to heir,
And so was all hir lustie Ladies cleir.

The King for joy gart cry ane grit justing
Into the honour of his hame cuming.
In mirrines and joy I leave them thus,
And speik I will of King Clariodus.

Returnit is the King Clariodus,

2640 And his two Coufings nobill and famous,
Unto the Kingis Palice of renoune ;
And he, that was imperiall under croun,
Obeyit was with sik eftait royall,
That in this warlond King was none mortall
Whome to was donne more worship and honour
Nor to this Prince, of chevalrie the flour ;
And this was donne ower all Britane so braid.

When he aught days thair sojornay had maid,
He for his four Maifters of houffold fend,

2650 And them he hes commandit then to wend,
And ordain richlie for his hie eftate,
Arraying all thing that beine pertinat
For him and for his Queine Meliades,
That all fould redie be on gudlie wayis
Within aught dayis for to take the sea ;
For he his Coufings with all royaltie
Wald put in thair realmes, and them convoy
And leave them thair to ring as Prince and Roy.
Thir four Lordis past [furth] without demand,

2660 And in all heast fulfillit his command.

When all was readie as him lift devyse,
He tuike his leave, and eik Meliades,
At Philipon the King, and eik the Queine,
And prayit God thair keiper for to beine

Into the realme whill thair againe cuming.
 And he anone hes taine in hand this thing.
 King Amandur and eik King Palexis
 Thair leave hes taine with all grit humbilnes
 At King and Queine, and all thair companie,
 2670 And on thair horfis ascendit roiallie,
 With more triumph nor I can gow defyne ;
 And thay anone raid to the port marine,
 And thair anone went to thair schips ifeir ;
 Bright was the hevin and Phebus schyning cleir.
 Thay raifit faillis bent unto the height,
 And fuire ower fluide as falcon fair on flicht ;
 And in fyve dayis, as Dame Fortoun wald,
 Toward the land [full] lustilie thay hald,
 And saiffe arryvit into Garnet land,
 2680 And into ane toun callit Varrogand.
 The Thrie Eftaitis of that regiou
 Full gloriouſlie them met with trumpit found,
 And with ane nobill and lustlie companie
 Them all [out] throw the cuntries fair thay gy,
 Whill thay com into the toun of Durant.
 The tounſhip thair with maner richt plifant,
 Met them with found of diverse instruments,
 With intermeiſis and blyth abaitments.
 In Palice regall, with feift and grit honour,
 2690 Anon refavit was King Amandur,
 And thair as Lord thay maid to him homage :
 Thus Fortoune hes him fet in full lie ſtage.
 The King, quhilk had resignit him the croun,
 Was then profeft into religiou
 Ane moneth out thay fojornit in that land
 In feiftuall joy and pleafance triumphand,

And fyne Clariodus his leave hes taine,
 And eike Meliades his foverane,
 At Amandur and Donas eik his Queine,
 2700 So did Palexis and lustie Cedar schein :
 Bot nevertheles they haive done thame convoy
 Unto the sea ; bot thair was litill joy ;
 At thair depairting pitie was to tell.
 Whan thay had done full long in armis duell,
 King Amandur and eik his lustie Queine
 Hame to thair Palice againe returnit beine,
 Whair thay full long did leive in joy and blis,
 Joyling the realme in peace as thay wald wis.

The King Clariodus and his companie
 2710 In schippis enterit hes, and fuddanlie
 They drew up faillis and ouer the wavis fehare.
 They glyde anone alfe swift as onie fyre,
 And day and night thay sojorne not nor rest ;
 Bot furth thay held ower fluid with faillis preit,
 Whill towards Caftalgie Eolus them draveit,
 Whair thay struik faill and suddenlie aryvit ;
 And fyne on horfe full royallie ascendit.
 The Lordis of the land on them dependit,
 And throw the cuntrie them convoyit with honour.
 2720 And he that was the realmes governour,
 He met them in the toun of Gandaleys,
 And feisit them on [the] moft gudlie wayis.
 On morrow furth thay raid with royaltie
 Unto the principall toun of Caftalgie,
 Quhilk callit was the toun of fair Vallance.
 They enterit in the Palice of plisance,
 Whair that the antient King did them relave,
 Both Lord and Barroun, Knight, and all the leave,

Them welcoming and feifing with great cheir,
 2730 And to them gart be maid ane grit denneir.
 Thair courfis all to tell ȝow it wald cumre,
 Thair intermeis is fo war out of number.
 When thay had dynit, the King of grit renoun
 In both his handis he tuike his roiall croun,
 And put it on Palexis heid richt thair
 Befor the companie condigne and fair,
 In his rob roiall alse he did him vest ;
 Syne King of all his realme [he] him possest ;
 And he him self of heigh devotion
 2740 Anone did enter into religiou恩.
 Thay fojornit still with pleant abaitments,
 With feifing, jufing, and with tornaments,
 Whill [that] sex ouldis war out worne ilk day ;
 Syne tuik thair leave withoutin more delay.
 Palexis them convoyit to the fea,
 Bot the depairting pitiouse was trewlie
 Betwix him and his Eame Clariodus.
 To twin with other thay war dolorus,
 The quhilk never twinit for weill nor wo,
 2750 Uneis thay might deceipt utheris fro.
 On everie syd they tuik Saint Johne to borrow
 Agane to meit, quhilk levit hes thair forrow.
 Ather did uther imbrace and faid Adew.
 This King Palexis hameward did perfew,
 Unto his Palice into fair Vallance,
 And with his Queine thair levit in plifance.
 The land he rewlit as ony wald devyse,
 And keipit it in peace and in justice.
 When that the nobill King Clariodus
 2760 Now schipit beine and all [his] Court famous,

In Irland thay did fuddanlie arryve,
 And thair on horse ascendit they belyve,
 And throw the toun of Gargaly [thay] raid,
 Ane fair village, with wallis heigh and braid,
 Whair two mightie Duikis of that regioune,
 With diverse utheris Lordis of renoune,
 Him met, and to the toun him did convoy
 Full plifantlie, with honour and with joy,
 And him refavit in ane Palice fair,
 2770 And royallie that night him feistit thair ;
 And as thair King thay made to him fewtie,
 And fwore to him the aith of fidelitie.
 Alfe fone as he the Morrow did espy
 To horse he went, and all his company,
 And raid out throw the cuntrie at his will,
 Whill he com to the toun of Marmavill,
 Surmunting all the tounis of Irland,
 Whair that the auld King was {asȝit] livand.
 He enterit at the ports of the toun,
 2780 Quhilk was arrayit of ane rich fassoun.
 The streitis flintit war full royallie
 With arras and with filkis most mightie,
 The minstrells playit on diverse instruments;
 Full monie spors and monie abaitments
 Devysit war before him on the streat,
 And full of joy was all the toun repleit ;
 The mirrie sound of trumpits did out thring,
 And all at onis did the bellis ring ;
 The tounship met him in thair best array,
 2790 Him doing all the honour that thay may.
 He enterit in the kirk full royallie,
 And thair he lightit and his fair Ladie ;

And quhen [that] they had maid ane orisoun,
 [And mēs was singin with an hevinlie found,]
 Unto the kirk he liverit grit thesawre ;
 Syne to the Palice raid with grit honour,
 And thair anone from horſe they did discend,
 And up the gries unto the hall they wend,
 Whair that the antient King into ane chyre
 2800 Was borne with Knightis them abyding thair,
 Whilk grevit was with age, and febillit so
 That he might not into thair meiting go ;
 To quhome the King Clariodus is gone,
 And heartillie in armis hes him tone.
 Thir Kingis two imbraicit uther thair
 With plefant wordis that war fweit and fair.
 Now am I glaid, this aigit King can fay,
 My deirrest Nevoy that sie now I may
 Within my realme in sik prosperitie,
 2810 I cair not now quhiddir I leive or die.
 Then off his heid he tuike his croun pretious,
 And with it crounit King Clariodus,
 And to him did resign his regioun.

When of this thing was maid conclusioun,
 His chyre to chalmer was borne royllie ;
 The fyd of it buire two Duiks honorabillie,
 The uther syde Clariodus the King
 Up buire, and so to chalmer did him bring,
 And on his bed him fet [then] full softlie.

2820 Then King Clariodus full courteſlie
 Tuike leave as then, and to the hall is gone,
 [Whair that the dinner readie was anone.]
 Grite was the feift, and pleafant was the cheir
 Within that hall of diverse courfis feir.

When thay had dynit and ryfin from [the] tabill,
 Lordis begouth and Ladies delectabill

To dance anone, and minstrells gane to play.

The portis oppinit war, the fith to say,
 And thairin enterit everie lustie wight,

2830 That lift to dance, to sing, or to have fight
 Of that glaid feift, furmnnting in plefance,
 And everie wight maid plesant countinane
 At the cuming of thair new Prince and King ;
 For song and play the long hall [all] did ring.
 The feift was great and lefft intieirlie
 Ane monethes space, it lefft larglie
 With glaid disport, justing and tornament.

Clariodus the King most excellent
 Of Lordis he had diversē mariagis,

2840 For to inforce with Irland his linagis.
 He maryit thair the sex Virginis cleir,
 That winit with the Ladie de la Careir,
 With potent Lordis of Irland cuntrie,
 That nobilleſt war and griteſt of degrie ;
 And Romaryn he wadit honorabillie
 Upon ane Count of Irland right mightie ;
 Sir Gilgeam de la Forreſt he mariet also,
 And Sir Richard de Mayanis they two
 With two grit Counteffes of that cuntrie,

2850 With all the feiftis and grit royaltie ;
 And fynit war the mariagis all
 With justing and with tornament royall.
 When he sex monthis had maid fojorning,
 And was obeyit both with auld and ſing,
 And conqueift all the heartis of that land,
 Then under him he maid ane Livetenand ;

Syne he his leave hes taine at the [auld] King,
 Wha was sorrowfull at his depairting.
 Diverse Lordis and Ladies of renoun,
 2860 He tuike with him to Inglands regioun.
 When he his leave had taine at everie wight,
 Then to the sea he schortlie hes him dight ;
 Heralds greatlie of gold and of money
 He left behind him into that cuntrie ;
 Syne with his Court he raid out throw the toun
 With found of trumpit and of clarion.
 Convoyit him to sea his Lufitend.
 And quhen thay war discendit to the strand,
 First at the King he tuike his regiment,
 2870 And fyne he tuike his leave and hamewart went
 Unto the King with commendatioune
 From King Clariodus of grit renoune,
 Saying, that soune againe he fould returne,
 And longer then into the land fojorne.
 Blyth was the King to heir of his rehearfe.
 Up gois the faillis preifit in the mafe
 Of all the schipis of King Clariodus,
 Whilk be support of the god Eolus,
 And be the help of him and lord Neptune,
 2880 Thay war aryvit in the cuntrie soune.
 Thus quhen Clariodus arryvit beine,
 Both he and eik Meliades his Queine,
 Went to the land with all thair companie,
 And on thair horse ascendit royallie,
 And throw the cuntrie raid with Court royall.
 The tyding ran out throw the cuntrie haill
 Of thair hame cuming, both to more and les ;
 And unto Belvell first thay can them dres,

And thair they hard how that the King anone,
 2890 And eik his Queine, war in religioun gone,
 Nocht fra the toun two mylls in ane Abay,
 To quhilk they did returne but more delay ;
 And thair this nobill Prince [hes] lichtit doun,
 And eik his Queine Meliades of renoune,
 And enterit in the Abay in feir.
 This auntient King and Queine advertift war
 Of thair cuming, and com in thair meiting.
 They helfit uther with tender imbracing,
 And kiffit uther on ane freindlie wayis.
 2900 And quhen the King and Queine Meliades
 Had commondon long with them on this maneir,
 He tukis his leave, so did this Ladie cleir,
 And said thay wold againe right oft returne.
 Whien thay had long tyme maid with them sojorne,
 On horse thay have ascendit, and furth raid
 Unto Bellvillardoun but [mair] abaid,
 Whair all the piple him met with trumpit found,
 Crying, Welcum our Prince of most renoune,
 Uneis for throng he might thring in the streit,
 2910 All circumstance I omit to repeit.
 Then at the Palice portis of renoune,
 He and his royll Court all lightit doun,
 And unto hall ascendit, and that anone,
 Whair he refavit Lordis monie one,
 That wounder glaid was of his hame cuming,
 For thay him lovit ouer all uther thing.
 The Lordis of Irland, that war with the King,
 Seing the joy maid at his hame cuming,
 And how he was lovit in his cuntrie,
 2920 Thay thought in happie tyme chofen was he

To be thair King and alse thair governour,
 Whilk of this world was Prince of most honour.
 The King gart mak ane Proclamatioun,
 And fende Heraldis in everie regioun,
 That thay, that wold renoun in armis win,
 Sould schaw, and thair ane tornament beginne
 In the realme of Ingland on sik ane day ;
 And quha defyrit knightlie to assay
 His nobill deidis, thair sould he servit be.

2930 And sounre the tyding sprang in ilk cuntrie,
 Of quhilk the King of France was blyth to heir,
 And all his Court both Lord and Bacheleir.

So happinit quhen the Heraldis com to France,
 The Lord Constabill with royll ordinance
 Was makand war furth into far cuntrie ;
 Whairfor the King, full valiand of buntie,
 Send threttie Knightis to the tornament
 In right knightlie and fair abuilgement,
 Led be the Knightis thrie of nobill fame,

2940 The first Sir Charles de la Careir to name,
 The secund was Sir Charles de la Valeir,
 The third Sir John was de la Barneir.

Thir threttie Knightis war fo diligent,
 That two dayis befor the tornament
 They com to prefence of King Clariodus,
 That glaid was of thair cuming and joyous.
 Then speirit he of the King, and how he fuire,
 Thair speirit he of the Queine of lustie figure,
 Then how the Constabill did eik alkit he.

2950 They said all war in gud prosperitie,
 And that both King and Queine did them commend,
 And heartlie greeting to his Hienes fende ;

And said the Constabill in Bethingham is went,
 With men of weir at the commandiment
 Of the nobill King, quhilk chargit him so.

Then was the King Clariodus full wo
 That he not cumin was with them, for he
 Him lovit for his wit and his buntie.

Quhen thay had spokin long upon this wayis,

2960 He bad them pas to Queine Meliades,
 And schew to hir the novelties of France.

Two Knightis them convoyit with plesance
 Unto the Queine, quhom thay full courteflie
 Helfit, and everie thing did spesifie
 To hir as thay did to the King before.

And scho, that was of bewtie so decore,
 Glaid was to heir of the prosperitie
 Of the gude King of France and his meingie,
 And of the Queine that was so honorabill,

2970 And of hir Ladies fair and amiabill.

In chalmer war thay put for to recray,
 Syne efter war in joyis all the day.

Upon the morne, from monie far cuntrie
 Com monie ane Lord and Knight of grit buntie.

King Amandur, and eik King Palexis,
 Hes Knightis sent of full grit nobilnes.
 The King of Spainȝe and [the] Earle Estur
 Send lustie Knightis of [full] grit valoure.

The Count of Glocester, with fair meingie,
 2980 Cumin is from the cuntrie of Spainȝe,

Not with Clariodus git feine is he ;
 For quhan he was into Spainȝe cuntrie,
 This nobil Count of manlie effeiris
 Upon the Sarafeinis lay at the weiris.

So monie Lords and Knights is gatherit thair,
 That fillit was the royll Palice fair.
 What is thair more to tellin of this thing,
 When cumin was the day of thair jousting,
 The Knightis com all armit in the feild,
 2990 Whair thair devoir they did with speir and scheild,
 That grit plisance it was them for to sie.
 The Ladies sat upon skaffaldis lie.
 Anone the trumpits blew ane mirrie tune,
 And so with lancis did the Knightis jume ;
 Both heir and thair to grund gois horſe and man,
 The earth dinnit as thay togidder ran :
 Bot all the nobilleſt King Clariodus,
 The floure of knightheid, fearce and chevalrus,
 Inarmit ichyning as ane angell cleir,
 3000 Sik wounderis wrought that ferlie was to heir ;
 From sum he straikethe helme and sum the scheild.
 Sum men and hors he dryves doun in feild
 Throw his grit vigour and strenuitie,
 Quhilk was in deids of arms ane A per fe,
 Might none him ather gainſtand nor abid ;
 Whairfor in feild thay maid him roum to ryd.
 Full long the jousting induirit on this wayis,
 The Knightis all war nobill for to prysse,
 In all the feild was naine of them that feinges ;
 3010 Full loud the heralds cryit thair ancheingis
 Of all thir Lordis worthie and famous.
 Heraldis eik of King Clariodus,
 With voices cryit, **ELU COUNT A LA BELL!**
 And he, that fo in knightheid did excell,
 In feild that day hes conqueift fik renoume,
 That it was hard in everie regioune

Of his victorious deidis triumphall,
Whairthrow his honour did so far excell ;
Ower all the world quhile that he was on lyve
3020 His knighthed ran in grie superlative.

This tornay duirit quhile the blissfull sun
His course diurnall had compleitlie run,
And did his purpur vifage all fcherond
In the occident under the noxiall clude,
And quhill that Venus fchewir cristall light ;
Then from the feild they go for falt of fight.

Ane moneth out did left this [grit] tornay,
That the Knights did him counter day be day ;
Bot King

A LIST OF CONJECTURAL EMENDATIONS ADOPTED IN THE TEXT, TOGETHER WITH THE READINGS OF THE MANUSCRIPT.

The first Reading is the Emendation, the second that of the MS.

P. 2, l. 41, soundis — sound
3, 53, ȝing — ȝoang 77, baire — buire
5, 118, unermit — enermit 121, and bade — abade 124, him till attend — attend
him till
6, 158, sone — some 161, beining — being 170, it — is
7, 180, ȝing — ȝoang 182, Whill — Will 194, utterance — uternance
8, 213, unfengifthe — unfeȝiflie 218, this — thus 229, not — it not
10, 280, ȝow — to 286, thus — this 300, nor — nor I 304, conforme — confirme
12, 344, de Beaulien (*from the French copy*) — Deam 345, Leonet de Mortemer
(*from the French copy*) — Leoner 345, Beaufort (*from the French copy*) —
Beamfort 346, Roye (*from the French copy*) — Roche
13, 383, to — into
14, 425, poynt — poynts
15, 433, Ane — And
16, 483, fellounlie — felloun
17, 524, quhile — quhen
18, 51⁰, For — Bot 558, resavit war — war resavit 559, than thay ȝeid — can
thay pase
19, 581, Boune — Bunde
20, 604, is — as 613, eike — bricht 617, beforne — before
21, 626, was — ws 647, wend — gone 654, wonder — wonderlie
22, 667, it waxit — wax
23, 691, into hir hart can sinke — in hir hart sinkis 702, Beaulieu (*from the French copy*) — Bealme 703, Leyon Dormal (*from the French copy*) — Gawin
Dornall 703, Beaufort (*from the French copy*) — Beamefort 707, Amador
de Brusland (*from the French copy*) — Amandor de Eruland
24, 725, dinnit — dimmit 726, Then all abune — The a bune 729, unsoft — un-
fost 732, sink — seik 750, well — weill
28, 861, Galice (*from the French copy*) — Calice
30, 940, Galice (*from the French copy*) — Calice
31, 959, upon — on
32, 987, in — in that 991, whill — will
33, 1019, was — ware 1034, Into — In
34, 1043, me call — call me 1053, Guy de la Riviere (*from the French copy*) — Sir
de la Zeipin 1057, them — the 1059, Halsand — This havand 1068, sup
and — supper and to
35, 1077, presence — presence to 1082, thus — this 1090, enmin — cum 1095,
allswyth brings into his presence — in presence of him bringis.

P. 36, l. 1105, palace — place 1107, knichtis — knicht 1117, Therefor — Sayis for
 1126, knichtis — knicht 1131, him into their — in

37, 1144, sane — se

38, 1173, ordainance — ordaining 1187, hir command — him command

39, 1212, Maianee (*from the French copy*) — la Main 1215, here — he

40, 1246, besyd — besynd 1258, do — so 1260, do — be

41, 1273, thus — long 1285, Thay — That 1286, thir — thair 1293, this —
 his

42, 1307, hyne — thyne 1038, wunderfullie — wonnderfull

43, 1333, in — on 1360, him — them

46, 1441, to beddis for to — into beddis they 1450, cousins — cousing

47, 1465, say — sey 1470, assent — ascent 1481, Scho — And

48, 1500, warldis — warld 1514, pray — prayis

52, 26, sent — went

53, 54, feinds — feind

54, 83, gave — have 88, heartfullie — hearfullie 91, he — I

56, 149, him — them passit 160, With — Wit 164, could neer devall — did
 wther deife

57, 207, befor sumthing — smuthing befor 208, war — war sumthing

59, 251, plane — place

60, 276, attire — ottrie

61, 319, schortlie — schortlie to 329, he — scho 332, thus — this

62, 347, alone — aleane

63, 388, withoutin — without

64, 425, diamand — diamond 426, illuminand — illuminat 433, varlot — war to

65, 445, hir — quhair 448, Greatlie — Great

67, 504, for — at 511, aneth — abone 525, sa great — for great pitie 526,
 suithlie — sweithlie

68, 536, dissimulance — dissimulant 544, Within — With

69, 578, scho — scho did 584, humbillie — bissilie

70, 596, was — war 597, war — was 610, oft — of 620, dwell — dwell ower love

72, 681, waikin — walking

73, 710, waris — was

74, 751, bearis — boaris

75, 755, whill — will

76, 802, de la Mere (*from the French copy*) — Lamourex

77, 849, devest — dewaist 850, bed he geid, him for — bodie he did him

78, 858, he — him 860, him — he 868, thay — that

79, 885, Lucent — Intent

80, 939, squyeris — knicht 943, Pennent — Tennent

81, 948, unearmit — enearmit

82, 979, eumin — eum

83, 1017, withoutin — without 1028, withoutin — without 1033, Thus — This
 1037, vouchsafe — witchehafe

84, 1043, sall — sall sall 1060, sall — sall you 1063, that we thus — we 1066,
 is — is from

85, 1105, Pennent — Tennent

86, 1124, they — the

87, 1145, mane — mone 1156, so — no

88, 1192, his fellowis — his his fellow 1195, firmance — prissoin

89, 1219, had — had thus 1232, gone — went

91, 1284, thay — day

93, 1340, main — man

95, 1400, rewthfull — trewthfull 1404, to gar men — and to gar 1408, Pen-
 nent — Tennent 1412, thus — this 1413, Seing — Saying

97, 1478, attentivlie — autentiklie

P. 98, l. 1518, fellow — felo 1521, Knichtis — Knight
 99, 1511, ȝing — ȝoung 1547, him — not
 101, 1617, then deliverit — them discoverit 1618, then — them 1618, hall — haitl
 102, 1635, minstrellie — instruments
 103, 1660, That ever — Than nor
 104, 1702, richt — richt great
 105, 1721, in — in ane 1728, bir — his 1733, maid — madine
 106, 1750, Thus — This 1761, sang — song
 108, 1811, oft — after 1831, bring — bricht
 109, 1853, he — scho
 110, 1893, resavein — resave 1894, glaidenting — glaidnes
 111, 1011, hamewart — hame 1920, Was — Was was 1920, this — thus 1927,
 Unto — Into
 113, 8, was — war
 114, 19, And — And for
 115, 52, Carados — Claradus 52, by — by the 62, sparget — spungit 71, List
 — List me
 116, 55, beteach — betaucht 89, demane — demand 98, nicht — knicht 101, eve
 — evine 112, sorrowfull — sorrowfullie
 117, 115, mundane — mundand 117, with wirdis of — of wirdis with 128, if —
 if ever
 118, 160, amiabill — and unabill
 119, 182, thame — thame two 186, gudlieheid — ladiheid
 120, 234, dolouris — dolour
 122, 278, barrnet — barrent 282, Bruland (*from the French copy*) — heichsum
 123, 308, Frensch — fresch
 124, 351, speiris — speir 356, unto the — to 369, wod — bold
 125, 378, nicht — bricht 379, he — they 388, Quick — Qnhilk 394, That — And
 126, 407, he — they 409, Carados — Clariodus 423, home to — at home in
 127, 435, Richt — Nocht 444, thair — thair thair 456, An war it anents — All
 war it never anents 458, haistining — haistilie
 128, 467, That scho be taine — Be taine with thame 468, thus — this 478, This
 — Thus 478, Thus — This 492, Thus — This
 129, 502, breath — handis 506, waldis — wald 508, echeve — achieve 524,
 from — for
 130, 551, withoutin — without
 135, 691, withoutin — without 716, hir — his
 136, 725, rent — rent and to rent 746, am — am I
 137, 757, Be — The 757, rebute — rebuike 758, wonit — winit 765, cloathis
 — cloath
 138, 799, unto — to
 139, 824, maid — madine 836, sche — scho 842, maid — madine
 140, 859, maid — madine 860, theron hes laid — syne hes land
 141, 892, heart — heart scho
 142, 932, With — Then
 143, 955, collourit — collouris
 144, 992, did behold — beheld
 145, 1013, thaim hir — hir thair 1037, Turkis — Turke
 146, 1044, among — upon
 147, 1077, he — him 1082, And syne unto — Syne to 1096, enarmit — armit
 148, 1123, thus — thus thus 1124, did ryd — ryding 131, none — naine 1136,
 importent — impotent
 149, 1149, and ferlie deir — that ferlie 1152, maire — more 1163, ȝea — ȝe
 153, 1269, Thus — This 1282, Syne theswre gart in full grit quantitie — Syne
 theswre gart or he went 1283, Deliver unto him before he went —
 Deliver he gart to him in full grit quantitie

EMENDATIONS.

P. 155, l. 1346, smthng — sumthing I 1354, maire — more
 156, 1389, he — he hes
 157, 1409, unknawin — unschawin 1419, In — I 1422, full oft — of 1423, bewtie
 and vertew — vertew and bewtie 1425, certes — certe
 158, 1450, aquantance — quantance
 159, 1466, a sore — for 1482, passit — pas
 160, 1492, bring — brocht
 161, 1535, maire — more 1546, affrayd — affrait
 162, 1564, cumpanie — cumpanie now
 163, 1593, his — thy 1594, sichis — sich 1601, oft bad him — bad him oft 1605,
 thame — and 1607, in this kinrick, both — Bot to
 164, 1619, alway — always 1638, thus — this
 167, 1718, daith — baith 1740, cryed — cryet 1745, his — this
 168, 1750, than — thair 1776, than commandit — thay command
 169, 1810, sadest — sad
 170, 1818, enter — enter in this 1832, langer — langour 1840, sall — sall sall
 1842, baith the — with ȝow
 171, 1854, cryed — cryit
 173, 1913, alway — away 1932, and nicht away did drive — the nicht away drave
 175, 1992, What — With
 177, 2044, sterve — stryve 2048, Sweit Sir, scho said, the cause of your dolour —
 Sweit Sir, scho said, Pleise ȝe reveale ȝour hevines 2049, Please ȝe
 reveale; sould it ȝow not displease — If it sould ȝow not displease
 2057, Thairefter — Thairfor
 182, 2210, Nane sall — Sall name
 183, 2219, thanks — hearts
 186, 2311, scho was — that scho
 187, 2361, Unto — To 2362, in all — all in
 188, 2393, was all the deuner — all the deuner was 2396, aine — aine richt 2403,
 to — unto
 190, 2442, thus — this
 192, 31, than — that 33, Whan that — Whair thay 37, than — that 47, unto — to
 193, 56, with joy — him did 65, scho rose — so ryse
 195, 121, behuifit — behnifit for 125, passit — past 140, Than — That
 196, 149, The — This
 198, 242, Then — They 242, that — thay
 199, 243, Whais palfray with the goldin taill and mene — Whais gndlie palfray
 with golden mone 246, Was with them led, quhite as the snow and
 schene — With them was with them led quhich scheine 272, Meliades
 — Meliades and
 200, 294, And to resave it — It to resave 297, Scho said — Ha 298, May it
 not — I may
 201, 324, As — And 327, to — unto
 202, 342, dispore — sporte
 203, 390, 391, *transposed in the MS.*
 204, 433, costlie — mikill
 205, 447, sang, and playit — song and play
 206, 475, refuge — releifeit 495, unto — to 495, also — anone 498, voices —
 voice
 207, 510, humbillie — humbill 516, of the finest gold — gudlie to behold.
 208, 551, Upon ane chariot sat — The ane upon ane chariot
 209, 580, and the — all and 593, passit — past
 210, 596, apeiris — apeirit 606, And — So 611, ȝe — ȝe doe 613, unto — to
 615, Esturs — Esture
 211, 641, he — thy 649, withoutin — without

P. 212, l. 671, prisoun — persone 685, thus — this
 213, 693, service — servitouris 697, wer — ar
 214, 733, vertew — vertew hes 742, all - - all uther 747, In whom — Whom in
 750, fund — fund nether
 215, 755, distressis — distres 768, our — ȝour 777, send — sent 781 Thus —
 This 786, Aquentit — And queutit
 216, 788, with — of 791, thair — thay 809, Then — All 816, words — word
 217, 825, the — than 834, upon — on 837, upon — on
 218, 863, upon the justing — before the mustering
 219, 884, they — he 894, unto — to 902, upon — ou 906, rather — rather have
 907, Ane speir have run all right and under scheild — Ane speir rine
 right aue speir under scheild
 220, 925, did say — said 942, quhyt and reid — reid and quhyt
 221, 949, newlie — new 951, as — as was. 953, Also quhyt as snow — of snow
 also quhyt 960, as — as bricht 969, all into — in
 222, 1003, inarmit — armit
 223, 1020, knightlie — knight 1024, wote — wait
 224, 1070, beistis small — small beists 1071, evaid — avoide
 225, 1075, thraw — throw 1081, in — on 1098, Than — That 1100, samen —
 same 1104, name — name raisit
 226, 1125, he — he beine 1127, beine — be 1134, Thus — This
 228, 1171, passit — past 1188, beamis — streamis
 229, 1215, minstrely — minstrellis 1228, Bot — Bot onlie
 230, 1240, Estur — Estur he 1248, bricht — licht
 231, 1274, taike — tuike 1279, passit — past 1291, We — And 1292, Sirs — Sir
 234, 1378, mocht — nicht 1384, that — at
 235, 1395, Clariodus — Clariodus, scho said. 1399, said he — thocht ge 1420, that
 it man be so — so that it man be 1426, tornament it might — torna-
 menting it might ȝow.
 236, 1448, unto — into
 238, 1495, then — they 1497, painis — pane 1499, they dance — dansit
 239, 1524, aue — me 1531, desyre it — it desyre 1540, ging — go 1548, pik — sik
 1549, for — heir
 240, 1564, into — in 1569, 1570, *transposed in the MS.* 1571, pleasance — plea-
 soure 1578, Thir — This 1578, ordanit — ordanit be him
 241, 1606, unto — to 1608, holte — holpe 1615, sighte — nighte
 242, 1628, with — with aue 1644, goldin — gold 1644, finger — thinger 1646,
 And — Ilim
 243, 1659, they — the 1680, do ȝe — ȝe do 1681, hade he — he hade
 244, 1700, ȝing — ȝoung
 245, 1745, thairfor — for 1746, chose — chosen
 246, 1759, and gentill Knight — and Ladie eik 1760, Hes — Is 1776, then — them
 247, 1787, That — Then 1789, againe — againis 1791, deir — dea 1810, Si je suis
 tousjours a Madame (*from the French copy*) — Servis coralionges ama-
 damem.
 248, 1816, aue — aue mirrie 1833, they — the
 249, 1864, Owtower — Ower 1865, Thay ȝow desyre — He ȝow desyris
 250, 1881, quhen ever that — ever quhen 1893, then awfullie did — did throw aw-
 fullie 1894, occupied — occupyt 1898, oft — of
 251, 1908, Connts wes — Counteses 1909, then drew aparte — drew aparte then
 1929, hmbill — humblie 1933, as — he said, as
 252, 1946, unto — to. 1953, thairunto — thairto. 1960, measouris — measoure
 253, 1989, worldis — world
 254, 2028, humblie — hmbill
 255, 2053, all was fair and well — as they did travell
 256, 2083, dicht — thike 2092, lansit — lonsit 2095, leivis — loveris
 257, 2113, mater — maner 2118, sorelie — sore

P. 258, l. 2144, resistance — residence. 2148, with all his heart — as I heard say 2152, upon — on.

259, 2163, passit — past 2172, then — is 2175, prise — praise 2192, can — can he 2194, speak did — spake

260, 2221, The — That the

261, 2245, thir — this 2253, unto — to

262, 2276, Whair — Whairfor

263, 2293, was this — this was the

264, 2331, day — and 2335, freschest — fresch 2336, freschest — fresch

265, 2361, Into — In 2362, thus — this 2383, himself — him

266, 2395, into — in 2403, upon — on

267, 2420, to him of — unto him of all

269, 2492, companie — companie now 2494, then is left — left is 2505, we — ȝow 2514, thus — this

270, 2519, their — the 2527, goldin coupis — coupis gold 2533, Of — To 2535, their gaitis they — the gaitis 2536, taine — taikine 2540, into — in

271, 2555, sche — scho 2561, presence — presents 2567, said — sad 2577, did them convoy — them convoyit

272, 2582, at — that 2588, commanding — commanding them' 2609, his — his his

273, 2612, To — And 2618, unto — to

274, 2672, heartillie — hir tenderlie

275, 2693, hes — beine

276, 2748, Glaidin — Glaid 2757, into — in

278, 2802, them — then 2804, than — thay 2813, devysit — devysing 2814, Lordis — Duikis 2816, uther — wyse 2817, upon — on

279, 2823, gone — gaine 2826, into — unto 2846, heralds — herald 2848, to — to call and

281, 3, upon — on 6, passit — past

282, 11, send — sent 20, knighthed — knighthed the 29, Prince — Princes 30, upon — on

283, 46, into — in 49, with — with ane 60, Troy — Troy of 65, Polinices — Polimus

284, 86, Lucreis — Lucrew 91, Dido — Pido 96, Orphius — Orthius

285, 118, into — in 124, stentit — stintit 131, of France full mightie — full mightie of France

286, 163, gaitward — gaitward, and 163, tone — taine.

287, 171, passit — past 176, unto the toun they go — to the toun they went 186, upon — on 196, Whair that — Whairwith

288, 202, syne — syne he 226, nor — nor for my

289, 239, pleasis — please 264, King — King, he said,

290, 278, syde — synde 296, upon — on

291, 297, eye — eyes 325, Lordis — Lord

292, 341, kneillit — kneilling 353, thus — this

293, 375, long — long hade 376, Whilk — What 381, leasour — leasour thay 388, thairupon — on

294, 401, wis — wist

295, 431, and — and to 446, neance — leising

296, 467, the — the Lord 468, gane — went 471, The — And 477, He — I 485, to — unto

297, 495, I — ȝe 496, into — in 511, certes — certs

298, 522, he — I

299, 551, upon — on 561, scheine — schyne 562, thus unto — this to 566, sche — scho 576, hir — hir bewtie and 577, leavis — leave hes

300, 600, turnay — taray 604, Thus — This 607, when — whill 608, bissielie — bissie 613, Ane — And

301, 624, Into — in

P.302, l. 659, Sir, richt weill faire he — he faire richt weill 660, I — And 666, amiabil — amabil 671, wayis — way 673, in — into
 303, 686, pure — floure
 304, 719, With — Of 744, The — Of
 305, 752, raisit — araisit 758, baith full lustie — fair to sie 771, Constabill Constabill went 774, garrit — gart
 306, 793, to — to King 801, Thus — This 807, wyfis — wyfe
 307, 809, Thus — This
 308, 843, was — was all 851, Quhill — Quhilk 855, cum — cunit 856, helst helst hes 865, to — unto 866, upon — on 872, mischance — chance
 309, 873, for — for in 877, of — of all 883, Thus — This
 310, 905, Thairefter — Thayrfore 905, dounre licht — licht dounre 928, quhalpis, I ingage — as quhalpis craigis 929, into — in
 311, 939, thair handis — hand 947, upon — on 955, plesance — pleasoure 958, For — Of 959, to — to be 965, far — fair
 312, 980, heralds — herald 987, it — within 991, into — in 991, triumphall triumphe
 313, 1018, did leid — led 1032, Duches — Duchesis
 314, 1042, among them went — went them among 1056, the leave will tell ȝow till — returne againe I tell
 315, 1072, eternall — ternall 1090, schuope — schip
 316, 1097, way — space 1115, suddanlie — suddanlie and
 317, 1157, unto — to
 318, 1175, faire — feire 1187, upon — on 1192, and — and so
 319, 1200, ransoune — ransome 1212, but ony — in but 1224, onlie this — this onlie
 320, 1245, might — heart 1252, upon — on 1256, skie — skyis
 321, 1258, that ȝe — ȝe that 1270, withoutin — without
 322, 1307, They — He
 323, 1328, untill — till 1342, And — His 1347, prisounre — persounre
 324, 1370, them — them all
 325, 1389, unto — to 1407, then — sonne 1415, withall disport — disport withall
 326, 1418, the — the Lord 1432, ȝit — he
 328, 1490, thair — thir 1491, ware — wore 1493, he — thay 1509, wound — woundis
 329, 1521, thay — thay ar 1533, toke — tuike
 330, 1547, robis royll — rob royllais 1565, Than — thair 1565, Fren sche — fresche 1574, And — As
 331, 1586, was — war 1590, and — that 1597, sortolegis — sartologis 1662, gritest — grit 1666, in — in the
 332, 1609, Everilk — All everilk 1624, loudlie — londe
 333, 1642, unto — to 1646, Clariodus — Clariod 1656, ferd — third
 334, 1684, Passit — Past 1685, doubtles — befor 1690, state — place 1696, now — new 1702, she — he
 335, 1720, he — he hes 1726, sche — scho 1727, scho had upon hir heid — upon hir heid had scho 1728, quylte — quhy
 337, 1787, apparrall — apparrall full
 338, 1818, I will — Ile
 339, 1840, so — to 1841, not — then 1864, for playis abuilgements — abuilgements for playis
 340, 1877, persoun — persoun that
 341, 1909, leavis — leave 1918, thay — thay war
 342, 1933, Was cled in — Cled in and 1937, and — and of 1942, grant — grantit
 343, 1967, feild — land 1987, Porus — Borus
 344, 2009, Thus — This 2019, behaeld — beheld 2017, dynnit — dymit 2017, schoke — schuike 2020, fall uns oft — felloun soft 2021, With — Wit 2021, upon — on 2021, beit — beited

P. 345, l. 2033, to — in 2037, governance, and name — honour, name and governance 2042, well then — of he 2043, thir — thair 2054, did take — tuike
 346, 2063, fine — seine 2071, descendit — ascendit 2072, And — As 2086,
 sang — song 2087, onis — ons
 347, 2096, scheildis — scheild 2111, led the Duike — the Duike led 2116, at —
 to 2118, Barrounes — Barrouns
 348, 2123, And — The 2130, Heraldis — Herald 2135, opinoun — opinionis
 2143, thir — hir 2147, unto — to
 349, 2177, thair — hir 2182, holt — holp 2184, and — as
 350, 2190, Wes — Hes 2191, two — twa 2201, and — all
 351, 2235, faikit — saikit
 352, 2251, Him — He 2252, nather — ather 2253, compyle — compleit 2260,
 I — they 2265, unfatigat — unfatigabill
 353, 2288, bauld — blaun 2309, fruschit — ruschit
 354, 2318, tone — taine 2326, ȝeid — reid 2341, not — no
 355, 2374, Heraldis — Heraldis that
 356, 2385, or at — ar or 2395, twane — two
 357, 2428, unto — to 2430, it — it to 2433, come — call
 358, 2448, everie — everie ane 2465, maneir — wayis 2469, unto — to
 359, 2480, his — the 2482, ordane — ordane for
 360, 2509, in — into 2524, teir — teiris 2525, Thus — That 2526, glyd — glyd
 out
 361, 2541, schipis — schupis 2552, his — his lustie 2556, hamewart — hamewar
 2557, his Court all — Court royll 2562, his — thair 2562, all — all
 his 2564, ȝing — fair
 362, 2571, suddanlie — and everie wight
 363, 2609, withoutin — without
 364, 2650, then — them 2651, ordain — ordant
 365, 2665, againe — gaine 2677, wald — wold 2680, into — in 2685, into — to
 2692, Thus — This
 366, 2718, land — land bes
 367, 2731, ȝow — ȝow now
 368, 2765, Whair — War 2785, streit — streits
 369, 2795, liverit — enterit 2815, royllie — honorabilie
 370, 2826, Lordis — Lord 2833, new — new maid 2850, With — When 2854,
 ȝing ... ȝoung
 371, 2870, hamewart — hame
 372, 2893, Prince — Princes 2895, the — the lustie 2906, Unto — And to 2908,
 our — or 2917, that — that cuming 2919, And — And saw 2920,
 he — hie
 373, 2921, King and also thair governour — governour and King 2926, Sould
 schaw, and thair — Schawand thair sould 2935, into — in 2940, Careir
 — Careir height 2949, he — hie
 374, 2957, he — hie 2959, upon — on 2981, he — hie 2982, into — in
 375, 2996, The — Te 2996, dinnit — dimit 3009, feinges — feinge

LIST OF ERRATA, WITH SOME ADDITIONAL EMENDATIONS.

P. 17, l. 502, Betwix in *read* Betwixin
18, 532, for *read* to 533, to *read* for
538, he, *so in MS.*, but *read* him
20, 593, knicht, *so in MS.*, but *read*
knichts
21, 625, know, *so in MS.*, but *read* knew
641, Sirs *read* Siris
24, 739, Thefoming *read* The foming
742, mairbut *read* mair but
25, 756, ay, *so in MS.*, but *read* thay
28, 877, sonne *read* sounne
37, 1149, sonne *read* sounne
40, 1246, sonne *read* sounne
46, 1425, sonne *read* sounne
47, 1480, sonne *read* sounne
48, 1502, When *read* Whill
49, 1521, takit *read* tak it 1522, ȝowit
read ȝow it
51, 8, sonne *read* sounne
61, 316, quarrel and *read* quarreland
66, 494, ȝour, *so in MS.*, but *read* ȝow
68, 552, forgottin, *so in MS.*, but *read*
forgettin

P. 70, l. 595, *was read* war
78, 882, corot *read* court
84, 1063, [that we thus] *read* that we
thus
88, 1191, [fain] *wald read* wald [fain]
93, 1336, Hecher *read* Heicher
100, 1563, quhom he, *so in MS.*, but
read quho him
124, 368, thocht, *so in MS.*, but *read* focht
145, 1024, hirwith *read* hir with
147, 1080, tothe *read* to the
161, 1524, Hispail *read* His pail
178, 2063, hebegane *read* he begane
183, 2227, getts, *so in MS.*, but *read* ȝetis
221, 974, overlaid *read* ouerlaid
228, 1199, rewth *read* trewth
253, 1973, came *read* come
274, 2667, conetine *read* conteine
277, 2790, themsate *read* them sate
293, 364, estart *read* escart 379, atray
read acray
345, 2054, [did take] *read* did take

